THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS

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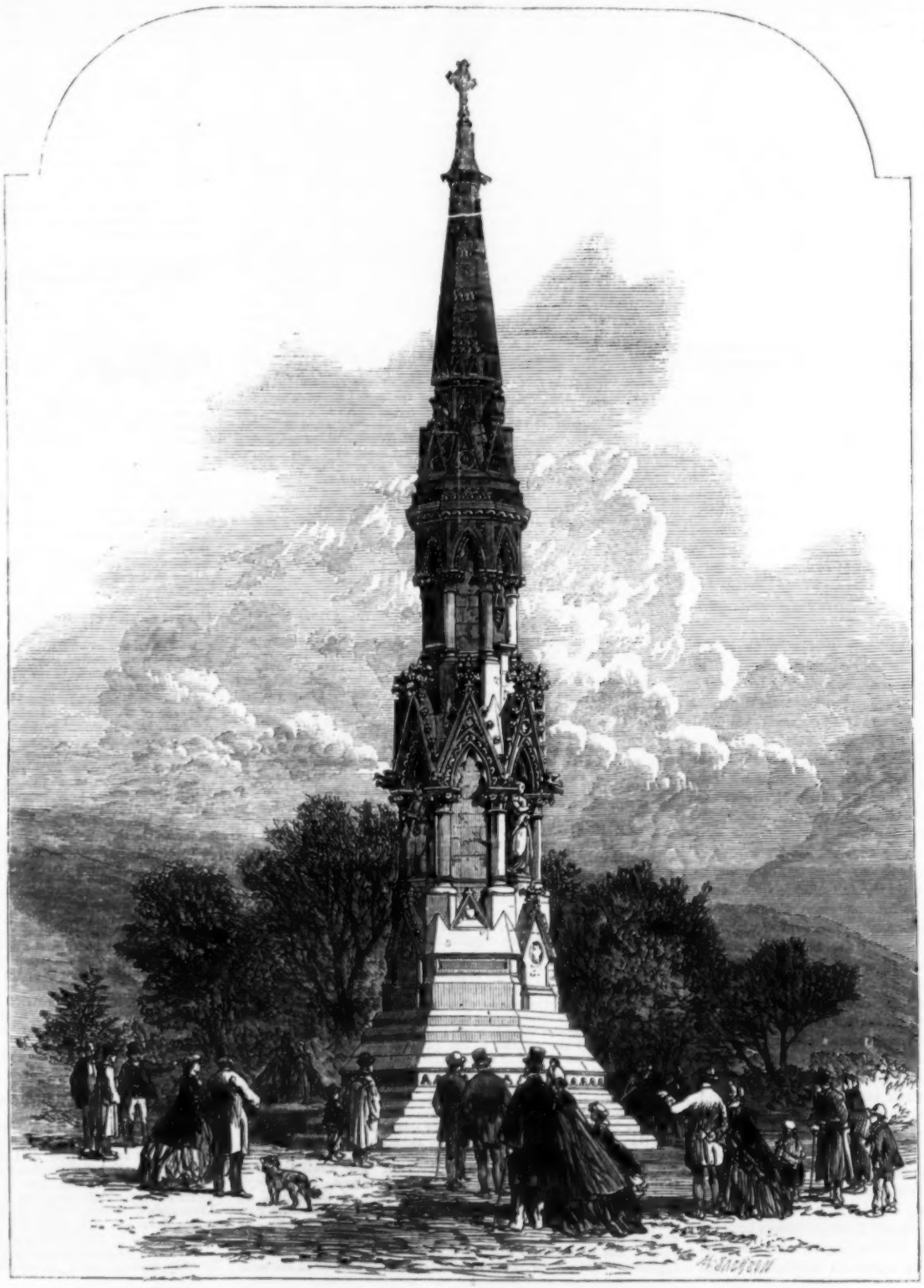
EDUCATION.

POLITICIANS of every class—Ministerial and unattached, party and independent, aggressive and defensive—have of late united in an assertion that England has been freed in a great measure from the burden of foreign policy. Henceforth that portion of the labours of our statesmen and our legislators is to be reduced to the minimum, and all the excellent talent which has been expended on the elaborate and more or less skilful conduct of that department of the State is to lie fallow. Only in those undefined extremities in which the interest and the honour of this country are distinctly involved are we as a people, through the medium of our Executive, to make or meddle in the affairs of the outer world. As a rule, the cases of exception being temporary and abnormal, our colonies are taking great pains that their affairs shall impose no special trouble upon the active agency or agitate the mind of the parent State. The doctrine of charity beginning, and by a not infrequent if not inevitable consequence ending, at home, is declared to be extended in all its strictness to the conduct of the affairs of this nation. Our own immediate and material concerns are to be our sole consideration, and not an idea is to be cherished which does not distinctly embody the principle of the direct good and advantage of the body politic. The romance of statesmanship is to cease and determine. If the acceptation of this theory is complete, its logical result is laid down to be a concentration of all the energies of the people and their rulers in the perfection of our social system, as implied in the rectangular adjustment of political rights, the rigid amendment of our laws, the development of sanitary improvement, and the extension of education in its widest sense. In short, to carry out the programme and to cause the dissolution, from mere want of fields of action, of the Society for the Promotion of Social Science.

Pending the advent of this national millennium, and apart from the abstract utterings of its prophets, it is happily the case that numbers of sensible persons are doing their best to carry out the practical parts of this scheme without caring to wait for a solemn inauguration of its theory. Especially to one point has the consideration of thoughtful and patriotic men been directed; and much discussion and no little tentative action has of late been applied to the question of national education, using the word in its most comprehensive meaning. Hitherto the term national education has been applicable to one part of the subject only; but its intent has now been greatly magnified, and the question has entered into a new phase. The real principles, and the adaptation in its integrity of the education of the people to its legitimate objects and in its several degrees of usefulness, are evidently so much in the contemplation and in the serious ponderings of those whom circumstances have placed in the position of leaders of public opinion, that it is hardly possible but that they will ere long be fully and generally understood; and, after that, their application and their diffusion is only a question of time and due preparation.

It is not so many years ago that the principle of the education of the people was recognised in this country at all, at least so far as it was a concern of the State. Indeed, even at this time, it is with many a moot point whether this is a matter in which the State ought to interfere; and what has been done and is doing under Government administration is only half accepted as a necessity which, somehow or the other, has not been met by spontaneous remedies. The groundwork of the system which is called—for want of a better name, inasmuch, at least, as it overstates two thirds of its reality—national education, is its subjection to voluntary efforts in affording instruction to a large body of the people. In its origin and object it was intended to apply, and in the main does apply, only to one class. Whatever may be the differences of opinion as to the details of its working; however local influences, individual theorising, and sectarian impracticability may have clogged and deadened the march of its operations; it is, on the whole, admitted that the so-designated national education has proved a great boon and a great good to the class for which it was



THE MONUMENT TO THE LATE SIR GEORGE CORNEWALL LEWIS AT NEW RADNOR.—SEE NEXT PAGE.

intended, and to the requirements of which it has been adapted. Indeed, so rapid has been its extension, if it is to be tested by the steady increase of its demands upon the public money voted by Parliament for its support, that cautious administrators have taken alarm lest undue advantage should be taken of the bounty of the State, and a check be given to that voluntary principle which political economists deem to be the vital element in the educational life of this country. Hence all sorts of devices have been adopted to direct Government aid to what is esteemed to be its true purpose—that of stimulating a self-originating system, and to check all tendencies towards the establishment of a scheme of State education, in the Continental acceptation of the term. It is probable that out of the midst of the controversies and discussions which were born of this attempt at prevention on the part of the Government sprang the feeling that, while so much care and so much money were expended in providing for the education of what, in no spirit of depreciation, we will call the lowest classes of the community, the education of the other classes had been overlooked, and, having been left wholly without wholesome supervision, had run rather to seed.

This discovery led to the appointment of the Commission of Inquiry into our great public schools. It is not too much to say that the result of that inquiry has been to show that in these splendid and wealthy establishments a system prevailed which placed them behind the age in a comprehensive educational sense. In spite of traditions and respectable prejudices, there is every probability that the spirit of reform will force its way into these institutions; and, as they possess all the means and appliances for vigorous reconstitution within themselves, and need no external help, they may well be left out of the purview of immediate and pressing necessity. However tardy, they cannot escape from the utilising tendency of the time.

But another result has been indirectly gained from this special inquiry. The question of middle-class education has been raised in so animated and engrossing a shape that it is fast ripening for a settlement. It is now widely known and felt that there is a large portion of the population of the country the educational requirements of which could not be met by the curriculum of our public schools, even if the means of attaining it were not wanting, while the same difficulty stood in the way of the sending of middle-class children to those private schools which are modelled on our public schools, both as regards teaching and expense. As a rule, there was only the alternative of the endowed grammar-schools, which are scattered throughout the country, and which, by the designs of their ancient founders, were intended as miniature Etons and Harrows, and their advantages, such as they are, chiefly confined to the children of members of the Established Church, and those wonderful academies which, according to advertisements, afford the most complete education, together with all the comforts of home, on the most liberal scale, for the modest consideration of £18 or £20 per annum. Even if this be an exaggeration, it is manifest that the condition of middle-class education is unsatisfactory and inadequate to the demand; so manifest, indeed, that the subject has been warmly taken up by the thinking part of the community, and has so impressed itself on the mind of the Government that a Commission is about to be issued to examine into the exact state of scholastic instruction in this particular sphere! Such an inquiry cannot but be beneficial; and the very fact of its having been proposed has already vivified the occupants of the sphere into which its operations will extend. Much has already occurred which is calculated to excite hopes of an approaching reform which will render middle-class education the best in the country. Schoolmasters, clergymen, statesmen, the Universities, as bodies, are rapidly combining to help in this good work. At this critical moment it is satisfactory to have had very recently placed on record the opinion of that Minister of the State in whose hands the supervision of education is technically reposed.

In the opinion of that Minister there should be inspection and, if possible, examinations of middle-class schools; and an attempt should be made to base them upon a plan which should, as far as possible, be systematic; but he distinctly disavows any notion that recourse should be had to Government aid until every other method had been tried in vain. This is equivalent to an opinion that recourse need never be had to the State at all. Given a plan, a system, which is to be held up only as a guide and an exemplar; and the will and the means for the proper training of their children, an object strongly desired by them, will not be wanting in our sturdy and self-reliant middle class. They may be deficient in originality of design for such a purpose; but, the way once pointed out to them, they will tread it steadily, in the full confidence of their own power of action. The case is fundamentally different from that of what we call the "lower class." The reason why help is given by the State to the schools of the labouring classes, and the status of each institution precisely laid down, is that the parents of the scholars have not the means or the knowledge of doing what is required for their children; and this deficiency is the only legitimate excuse for the assumption of the task by the State. But the members of the middle class have the means, and are only partially deficient in the knowledge and the concert and combination necessary for procuring the good education for their children which they desire; and hence the waste of money which is now prevalent on admittedly ineffectual schooling. It is true that there are amongst the middle class some admirable schools, which show what may be done without organised dictation or aid from the State. This is a proof that it only needs that the true condition of the case should be placed before the middle class, its resources and the abuses of those resources brought within its perception, and the best examples and the most aspectal warnings in relation to education exhibited to its understanding, to induce that class to take the required reform into its own hands. It only needs the impulse to be given and judicious guidance to be afforded to enable this class to do a great work and to supply for itself a great blessing. If, however, those who are, much to their credit, placing themselves at the head of the movement in this direction which has begun should attempt to propose a system modelled on that which has been applied to the instruction of children whose parents are disqualified as a class by ignorance, poverty, and traditional habits of dependence to perform their educational duty towards them, it is no rash prophecy to predict that the issue will be a failure. If statesmen, legislators, political economists, and men of learning, in combination with the Government, will give their aid to systematise, to methodise, and to stimulate middle-class education, they will be performing a task which will be acceptable to those for whose benefit they are working, and do much towards the end which is in view. But any scheme which may be based on the principle of a compulsory course or method of instruction and superintendence, even if it could be put into shape by the Legislature, would be wholly efficacious and inoperative, for the simple reason that it would not be endured by the persons for whose behoof it was designed.

THE MONUMENT TO SIR GEORGE CORNEWALL LEWIS AT NEW RADNOR.

The inauguration of a monument to the late Sir George Cornewall Lewis, in the little town of New Radnor, in which neighbourhood his country seat of Harpton Court is situated, took place on Wednesday week. The Engraving on our front page, from a photograph by Mr. Barrar, of Kington, Herefordshire, represents the structure which has been erected on a triangular grassplot at the junction of three high roads, just at the entrance to New Radnor, on the eastern side of the town. It had been originally intended that the site of the monument should be on a mound, called the Castle Hill, which overlooks the road; but the workmen, in digging there for a foundation, came upon the ruins of Old Radnor Castle, with which it was thought best not to interfere. The architect of this work is Mr. John Gibbs, of Oxford, who is likewise the architect of the memorial cross at Banbury, the monument to the Prince Consort at Abingdon, and of that to Shakspeare at Stratford-on-Avon. From his design, and under his superintendence, the monument at New Radnor has just been completed by Mr. Mansfield. It is somewhat after the fashion of the Eleanor Cross, and is built mainly of Box ground stone. It is 77 ft. high by 25 ft. in width at the base, and is octagonal in form. It comprises three distinct stages. On the front next the base is the following inscription:—"Radnorshire to her most distinguished Son, Sir George Cornewall Lewis, Bart. Died 1863." Under this inscription there is a medallion portrait, in marble, of the late Baronet; and on the second stage above it, in four recesses, divided by eight columns, stand, under richly-carved canopies, four allegorical figures, each 6 ft. high, representing Justice, Truth, Oratory, and Literature. The next stage consists of red Mansfield stone, placed round an octagonal shaft, and decorated with the coats of arms of England, Ireland, Scotland, and Wales, immediately over which are four large griffins grasping the arms of the Lewis family. An ornamental spire springing from this last stage, and having at the top a carved cross with a circle entwined in its centre, terminates the structure, the general effect of which will be best conceived by imagining a slender church steeple, richly decorated, and gracefully tapering, stage by stage, from a platform ascended by steps at its base to the cross at its summit. The figures have been sculptured by Mr. Forsyth, of Worcester; and the foliage and other carving by Mr. W. Stevens, of Barnwell, near Oundle. They are all very creditable work.

The ceremony was simple and impressive. On a platform, sheltered from the rainy weather by a large tent, were Sir John Walsh, the Lord Lieutenant, and Mr. G. Haigh, the High Sheriff, of Radnorshire; the Earl of Clarendon; Mr. R. G. Price, M.P.; the Bishop of St. David's, the Rev. Sir Gilbert Lewis, Mr. Vernon Harcourt, and others. The Rev. L. Venables (chairman of the committee of subscribers) announced the completion of the work; Sir J. Walsh then spoke at some length of the character and public services of the lamented Baronet; the Earl of Clarendon and the Bishop of St. David's followed in the same strain; and, lastly, Mr. Vernon Harcourt and Sir Gilbert Lewis, as near connections of the deceased, added their tributes of praise, and of regret for his untimely death. The proceedings ended with a vote of thanks to the building committee.

We have engraved, on another page of this week's Impression, a View of the Old Church at Radnor, the family burial-place of the late Sir George Cornewall Lewis, where he was interred a few months ago.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

FRANCE.

A Cabinet Council was held at Compiègne on Sunday, under the presidency of the Emperor.

M. Mocquard, so long the private secretary of the Emperor, and recently created a senator, is dangerously ill. His Majesty visited him on Saturday last, and remained with him more than an hour.

The Court of Correctional Appeal in Paris has given judgment against the appeal of the thirteen deputies accused of holding illegal meetings and confirmed the sentence pronounced upon them.

The Hon. William Dayton, United States Minister at Paris, died on Thursday week of apoplexy, in his fifty-seventh year. The obsequies of his Excellency were performed on Tuesday at the American Chapel, when the Foreign Minister and the whole Diplomatic Body were in attendance. The Emperor and Prince Jerome were represented by Baron de Lajus and General Franconnière. The Federal flag covered the coffin, which has been transferred to Havre for embarkation.

Six churches are in course of erection in Paris—namely, at Montrouge, at Ménilmontant, on the Boulevard des Invalides, and the churches of St. Augustine, the Trinity, and St. Ambroise.

An assembly is about to be held at Rouen under the title of "Congrès pour l'Etude des Fruits à Cidre." The object of this meeting is the study of all questions concerning the culture of apples and pears.

Marshal M'Mahon has arrived in Paris from his governorship at Algiers, on business connected with that dependency. Tranquillity prevails in all the provinces, with the exception of Babor.

A regiment of the French expeditionary army has arrived at Lisbon on its way home from Mexico.

ITALY.

The debate on the Franco-Italian Convention is still proceeding in the Senate. In the course of an important speech, on Monday, the Minister of the Interior said the temporal power of the Pope was not necessary to the splendour and independence of the spiritual power, and that the solution of the question was to be found in the principle of a free Church in a free State. Intervention was about to cease, and though Italy had an interest in repelling all foreign aggression to uphold the temporal power, yet, in the event of a movement breaking out in the Pontifical territories, Italy was not under engagement to repress it. These remarks were received with great applause by the Chamber. On another occasion the Prime Minister said that the possession of Venice was merely a matter of vanity on the part of Austria, and that Germany could not believe the Queen of the Adriatic was necessary to her existence. The Minister denied that France coveted any portion of Italian territory. In Tuesday's sitting General Cialdini supported the transfer of the capital on military grounds, and declared that between Austria and Italy no compromise is possible. The passes of the Apennines he described as capable of being made in case of need the genuine Thermopylæ of Italy. His declarations against Austria were received with loud applause. General La Marmora informed the sentiments of his military colleague. The Marquis Pallavacino, an old friend of Garibaldi, opposed the Convention, and declared himself in favour of going to Rome at all risks, and making war upon Austria for Venice. Signor Revel censured the Convention from other motives, and considered the independence of the Pontifical temporal power necessary. In Wednesday's sitting Signor Gallina said the Convention ought to be accepted, notwithstanding its origin. The transfer of the capital was necessary, but it ought to be effected gradually.

The *Official Gazette* of Turin publishes a fresh list of ninety-eight communes which have offered to pay the land tax for 1865 in advance, and also a list of syndics, municipal juntas, provincial councils, and private individuals who have made a similar offer.

The *Pungolo* of Naples announces that the brigand chief Schiavone, the terror of the Capitanate, has been captured, with five of his men.

AUSTRIA.

The Lower House of the Reichsrath has concluded its debate on the address to the Throne. The draught of the address was adopted, and was sent to the Emperor in writing. The address is liberal and progressive in many of its expressions, and denotes a decided tendency towards conciliation within the empire and peaceful relations abroad. The Chamber have adopted a paragraph in their address to the Throne calling for an official statement of the causes and the results of the state of siege now existing in Galicia. This paragraph was adopted despite the strenuous resistance of the Ministers.

The attempted rising in Friuli has been so far suppressed that the Government had issued a decree abolishing martial law in the district.

DENMARK AND GERMANY.

The King of Denmark continues his journey to Jutland, and we learn that, despite the prohibition of the German Commissioners in Schleswig, a number of Schleswigers have gone to Kölding to pay their respects to King Christian and to assert their Danish nationality.

In Monday's sitting of the Frankfort Diet the Austro-Prussian proposition for the evacuation of Holstein and Lauenburg by the federal troops was carried by nine votes against six. Saxony, Bavaria, Wirtemberg, and Darmstadt voted with the minority. The representatives of Austria and Prussia then intimated that the civil commissioners of the two Powers in Schleswig would likewise undertake the administration of Holstein and Lauenburg. We may therefore regard this affair, which at one time threatened so seriously, as now over.

The Prussian troops who have returned from the scene of the late war entered Berlin on Wednesday, with the King at their head, amid an immense and enthusiastic crowd.

RUSSIA.

Winter seems to have commenced in earnest in Russia. A letter from Cronstadt of the 23rd ult. states that the sea was then frozen there as far as the eye could reach. Several merchant-vessels, with full cargoes, are frozen in.

An Imperial ukase has been issued ordering the Senate to promulgate the law relative to the new organisation of the courts of justice, the new penal code, and the laws upon the procedure in civil and criminal affairs, and the powers of justices of the peace; all these laws having received the Emperor's sanction.

It is asserted that a new internal lottery loan of one hundred millions of roubles will be issued. The proceeds to be applied for the construction of railways in Russia.

The celebrated Russian astronomer Frederic Struve, whose name is associated with all the great works of triangulation and geodesy carried out in Russia and Eastern Europe, died on the 23rd ult. at St. Petersburg. He was born at Altona in April, 1793.

The Emperor has issued a ukase extending the abolition of serfdom to Transcaucasus, the only province of the Russian empire where that institution still exists.

GREECE.

The King has taken the oath to the new Constitution; and the National Assembly, having finished at last its long-protracted labours, has been dissolved.

AMERICA.

By the Peruvian and the City of London we have New York despatches to the afternoon of the 26th ult.

General Sherman is making his way through the heart of Georgia, laying waste the whole country in the track of his columns. There is, however, little as yet positively known as to his movements, and there is no certainty as to the point at which he is aiming. It seems as if he were making for Augusta, one portion of his cavalry having reached Gordon. He appears to have extended his army along a wide extent of country, and had burned several towns through which he passed. There was a report that he had captured Macon, but this is not confirmed. On the contrary, at the last account, the Confederate General Wheeler with his cavalry was said to be disputing the advance of Sherman's column on that place. General Beauregard had telegraphed that he would soon be in Georgia to aid in repelling the invader, and he requested the people to destroy everything before Sherman, so that he could not live on the country. The Georgian representatives had also telegraphed a similar request. Meantime, the militia were mustering in all directions, and orders had been given that the local forces of North and South Carolina should go beyond the borders of their own States to assist in repelling the bold Federal. Hood was progressing rapidly in Tennessee. He was advancing on Pulaski, from which the Federals were retreating, making for Columbo, where an engagement was expected. Thus we have the remarkable spectacle of a Federal General making his way by fire and sword through the rich cotton State of Georgia, and of the Confederate General so lately opposed to him carrying at the same time the war northward.

At Petersburg no active movement had taken place; but the Confederates were reported to be mining under Grant's lines. On a late Federal reconnaissance in the Shenandoah Valley Early was found in strong force at Rood's Hill.

President Lincoln has issued a proclamation announcing that the blockade of the ports of Norfolk, Virginia, and Pensacola and Fernandina, Florida, should be raised on Dec. 1, when those ports would be opened to commerce, excluding only articles contraband of war.

The exchange of prisoners of war is still in progress at Savannah. At last accounts nearly 4000 had been exchanged.

The Hon. Reuben E. Fenton, Governor Elect of the State of New York, in responding to a serenade at the Astor House, stated that hereafter the State should occupy no hesitating or equivocal position. The issue presented to the people, he said, was whether they would maintain the Government in its integrity, or whether the advantages gained over the Confederates should be surrendered, thus acknowledging the inability of the North to maintain the contest and becoming the laughing-stock and derision of mankind.

It is reported from Washington that Lord Lyons has almost recovered from his recent illness.

An attempt was, we are told, made, on the night of the 25th ult., to set fire simultaneously to a number of the great hotels, theatres, and public buildings of New York; but it is added that little damage was done. Two of the alleged incendiaries had been apprehended, and it was supposed that Confederate emissaries were connected with the plot.

The latest quotation of gold at New York was 122½ per cent premium.

The Canadian authorities, finding that the Southerners were collecting munitions of war at various points, had prohibited the exportation of arms.

INDIA.

The Viceroy of India, Sir John Lawrence, returned to Calcutta on Nov. 1 from his successful visit to the capital of the Punjaub.

The entrance of the British force into Bhootan was to take place about the middle of this month.

The subscriptions in Bombay towards the cyclone relief fund at Calcutta had reached the amount of £20,000.

There was another gale at Calcutta on the 21st ult., attended, fortunately, with but slight damage.

There has been a violent gale at Masulipatam, on the Madras coast, which has reduced the town to a complete wreck by an inundation. Thousands of lives are said to have been lost.

The Maharajah Jung Bahadoor was lately invested with the Indian mutiny medal by the Resident at Katmandoo.

Mr. David Sassoon, the venerable head of the Jewish community of Bombay, died at Poonah, on the 7th ult., in his seventy-second year.

JAPAN.

A brief telegram from Shanghai gives us a somewhat confused report of the state of affairs in Japan. At Jeddo trade is said to be flourishing, and the Daimios have agreed to reside there; but Prince Nagato is recalcitrant, and has refused payment of the stipulated indemnity. In consequence, there had been much excitement, and his palace had been razed to the ground.

NEW ZEALAND.

There has been a Ministerial crisis in New Zealand, Mr. Fox's Ministry having tendered their resignation; the Governor, however, declined to accept it. A large number of Maori prisoners had effected their escape and were fomenting a spirit of discontent amongst their compatriots.

THE COURT.

The Queen continues at Windsor Castle, in the enjoyment of good health.

On Thursday week her Majesty, accompanied by Princess Louisa, walked and drove in the castle grounds. Princess Helena rode in the riding-school. Princess Louisa, attended by the Hon. Emily Cathcart, took a drive. Prince Leopold, attended by Mr. Buff, drove out. Princess Helena, attended by Lady Caroline Barrington, the Hon. Emily Cathcart, the Hon. Florence Seymour, and Major-General F. H. Seymour, went to London in the evening and honoured the performance at the Haymarket Theatre with her presence, returning to the castle at twelve o'clock.

Yesterday week the Queen, accompanied by Princess Louisa, walked and drove in the castle grounds. Later in the day Princess Louisa, attended by the Hon. Emily Cathcart, took a drive. Princess Helena rode in the riding-school. Princess Beatrice walked out. The Portuguese Minister arrived at the castle and had the honour of dining with her Majesty.

On Saturday last the Queen, accompanied by Princess Helena, and attended by the Countess of Gainsborough, Lady Augusta Stanley, Colonel the Hon. Sir C. B. Phipps, Major-General F. H. Seymour, and Lieutenant-Colonel Du Plat, visited the barracks of the Life Guards and the Coldstream Guards at Windsor. Her Majesty left the castle at half-past ten o'clock, in an open carriage, and drove to the foot barracks in Sheet-street, where the second battalion of the Coldstream Guards is stationed. The barrack square was lined by the officers and men of the regiment, with colours and band drawn up in parade order, under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel the Hon. P. R. B. Fielding, Lieutenant-Colonel Fremantle, and Lieutenant-Colonel Blackett. As the Queen entered the square the troops presented arms, and her Majesty drove slowly round and inspected the battalion. The Queen afterwards examined the interior arrangements of the barracks, visiting the married soldiers' quarters and the children's school. Her Majesty looked at the writing of the scholars, and evinced much interest in their welfare, and also expressed her satisfaction at the general order of the establishment. The Queen very graciously paid a visit to the regimental sergeant-major's wife, who has recently been confined. The troops again presented arms upon her Majesty's departure. The Queen next drove to the cavalry barracks at Spittal, where the 2nd Regiment of Life Guards, commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel F. Marshall, is quartered. The regiment was drawn up in parade order, and received her Majesty with a Royal salute. The Queen drove slowly past the ranks, and then proceeded to inspect the various departments of the barracks, visiting the library and reading-room, the soldiers' rooms, the children's school, the stables, and the riding-school, where her Majesty witnessed a ride of the non-commissioned officers. The Queen also visited the officers' mess and billiard rooms, which had been fitted up as ball and supper rooms for the military ball of the previous evening. Her Majesty expressed her admiration of the decorations and the military trophies, and especially approved of the interior arrangements of the garrison. The Queen left Spittal at half-past eleven, the officers and men presenting arms upon her Majesty's departure. Later in the day the Queen, accompanied by Princess Helena, drove out. Princess Louisa took a drive. Prince Arthur, attended by Major Elphinstone, arrived at the castle. The Earl of Clarendon also arrived at the castle.

On Sunday the Queen, Princess Helena, Princess Louisa, Princess Beatrice, Prince Arthur, and Prince Leopold attended Divine service in the private chapel of the castle. The Very Rev. the Dean of Canterbury officiated. In the afternoon the Queen and Princess Helena attended Divine service at St. George's Chapel. The Rev. E. Tapsfield, the Rev. Mr. Freier, and the Rev. Canon Anson were the officiating clergymen. The Earl of Clarendon had the honour of dining with her Majesty.

On Monday the Queen, accompanied by Princess Helena and attended by the Countess of Gainsborough, Lieutenant-General the Hon. C. Grey, Major-General F. H. Seymour, and Lieutenant-Colonel Du Plat, went to London. Her Majesty left the Windsor station of the Great Western Railway at half-past ten o'clock, and travelled by special train to Paddington, whence the Queen drove to Hyde Park and inspected the works in progress at the Prince Consort's Memorial. Her Majesty was received at the site by Mr. G. G. Scott, the architect, and Mr. Kelk, the builder, by whom various explanations were given to the Queen respecting the progress already made and the plans to be carried out. The memorial will be executed in Sicilian marble. The larger works will be at the lower angles of the pyramid of steps, the groups of figures representing the four quarters of the world. At each angle of the podium there will be also a marble group representing Agriculture, Manufactures, Commerce, and Engineering, with a cluster of granite columns at the back of each group. Upon the upper portion of the shrine will be figures of the virtues, the arts, and sciences, idealised. The Queen was graciously pleased to express her approval of the works in progress. Her Majesty next visited the Horticultural Gardens at South Kensington, and inspected the grounds and the preparations made for the international show of fruit and vegetables. The Queen afterwards drove to Buckingham Palace. Her Majesty proceeded at a quarter before two to the Paddington terminus and returned by special train to Windsor. Princess Louisa and Prince Leopold walked and drove in the castle grounds. Princess Beatrice took a drive. Prince Arthur, attended by Major Elphinstone, left the castle for Greenwich Park. The Earl of Clarendon also left the castle for London. Lady Napier arrived at the castle.

On Tuesday the Queen, accompanied by Princess Helena, drove in the castle grounds. Later in the day her Majesty, attended by Lady Augusta Stanley and Major-General F. H. Seymour, drove out. Princess Helena, attended by Lady Caroline Barrington and Lieutenant-Colonel Du Plat, went by the South-Western Railway to Kew and visited the Duchess of Cambridge. After partaking of luncheon, her Royal Highness proceeded to Twickenham and paid a visit to the Count and Countess de Paris, returning by road to Windsor Castle. Princess Louisa and Princess Beatrice drove out. Lady Napier had the honour of dining with her Majesty.

On Wednesday the Queen, accompanied by Princess Helena and Princess Louisa, walked and drove in the castle grounds. Princess Beatrice walked out. Lady Napier left the castle. Earl and Countess Russell arrived at the castle.

The Queen, with the junior members of the Royal family, will leave Windsor Castle on or about the 17th inst., and proceed to Osborne, where her Majesty will pass the Christmas season. The Court will reside about six weeks at Osborne, after which the Queen is expected to return to Windsor Castle.

The Queen has been graciously pleased to express her desire, in a letter to Lieutenant-Colonel Fielding, the officer commanding the second battalion of the Coldstream Guards, that the infant child of the regimental sergeant-major's wife, Mrs. Creagh, whom her Majesty visited on Saturday last, should be named Victoria Alberta, in commemoration of the Queen's visit to the barracks. With the letter a cheque for £5 was forwarded as a present from her Majesty to Mrs. Creagh.

Mr. and Mrs. A. Wigan have had the honour of reading a selection of English poetry before the Queen and the Royal family.

Viscount Torrington and Lieutenant-Colonel F. Cavendish have succeeded the Earl of Caithness and Captain Sir W. Hoste as Lord and Groom in Waiting to her Majesty. Major-General F. H. Seymour and Lieutenant-Colonel Du Plat have succeeded Lord Charles Fitzroy and Colonel the Hon. A. Hardinge as Equerries in Waiting to the Queen.

THE PRINCE AND PRINCESS OF WALES.

The Prince and Princess of Wales continue at Sandringham House.

On Tuesday week the Prince, accompanied by Viscount Hamilton, Colonel Byng, and Colonel Kingscote, and attended by Major Teesdale, was present at a private meeting of the West Norfolk Hunt at the preserves of Anmer. The Princess, attended by the Countess of Macclesfield, drove to the "meet." Foxes were found, and a good run was obtained.

On Wednesday week the Prince commenced shooting on the Appleton side of the estate.

On Thursday week the Prince had a grand battue. This was the twentieth anniversary of the birthday of the Princess. The day was celebrated at Sandringham House by a ball, and at Windsor and King's Lynn the day was observed with the customary honours. The Royal dinner party included the Duke of Cambridge, Viscount Hamilton, Col. and Lady Emily Kingscote, Colonel the Hon. A. Hardinge, Colonel the Hon. J. Macdonald, Colonel and the Hon. Mrs. Byng, the Countess of Macclesfield, Lieutenant-General and Mrs. Knollys, Major Teesdale, Captain Grey, Mr. C. Wood, Mr. Herbert Fisher, and Mr. Holzman. After dinner a large party of the principal members of the landed gentry arrived, among whom were the Earl and Countess of Leicester and Lady Anne Coke, Lord and Lady Sondes and the Hon. Miss Milles, Lord and Lady Templetown, Lady Audrey Townsend, Mr. and Mrs. and Miss Villebois and Miss Bagge, Mr. A. Hammond, jun., Mr. L. W. Jarvis, Mr. and Mrs. Somerville Gurney.

Yesterday week the Duke of Cambridge left Sandringham House.

On Saturday last the Prince went wild-fowl shooting on Wolverton Marshes. Colonel and Lady Emily Kingscote and Colonel the Hon. A. Hardinge left Sandringham House.

On Sunday the Prince and Princess and Colonel and the Hon. Mrs. Byng attended Divine service at Sandringham Church. The Rev. R. W. Pearse, M.A., Incumbent of Gaywood, officiated.

On Monday Viscount Hamilton and Colonel and the Hon. Mrs. Byng left Sandringham House.

The Prince makes frequent hunting and shooting excursions in the neighbourhood. The Princess takes daily walks and drives in the vicinity of Sandringham.

Captain Grey has succeeded Major Teesdale in attendance upon the Prince.

His Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge left Gloucester House, Park-lane, on Monday, for Longleat, Wiltshire, on a visit to the Marquis and Marchioness of Bath.

His Excellency the Austrian Ambassador has returned to Chandos House, from Vienna.

The Duchess of Somerset and Lady Gwendoline St. Maur have arrived at Netherby Park, Cumberland, on a visit to Sir James and Lady Hermione Graham.

Countess (Frances) Waldegrave and the Right Hon. Chichester Fortescue arrived at Strawberry Hill, Twickenham, on Tuesday, from Dudbrook House, Essex.

Viscount and Viscountess Palmerston left Cambridge House on Wednesday for Broadlands, Hants.

CHURCH AND UNIVERSITIES.

The Bishop of Llandaff intends to hold his next General Ordination in the cathedral church of Llandaff, on the 12th of March next.

Sir John Trollope is restoring the church of Weston St. Mary, Lincolnshire, according to designs by Mr. G. Gilbert Scott.

The new Church of All Saints, Cambridge, was consecrated, on Wednesday week, by the Bishop of the diocese.

The beautiful chapel attached to Sherburn Hospital, near Durham, was destroyed by fire on Sunday morning.

On Wednesday week, the new Church of St. John the Evangelist, at Masborough, was consecrated by the Archbishop of York.

The repairs and restoration of Worcester Cathedral, on which between £30,000 and £40,000 is to be expended, are about to be resumed.

Thorverton Church, Devon, which has been enlarged and much improved, was recently reopened. The cost of the work is about £2200.

Eton College will close on the 16th inst. for the Christmas vacation, which will last about five weeks.

The Rev. Ernest Hawkins, B.D., was on Monday installed as Canon of Westminster Abbey. Dean Stanley officiated.

The Judicial Committee of Privy Council will not take the Colenso case until Wednesday, the 14th inst. The Bishop of Cape Town intends to appear under protest.

The Church Missionary Society have determined upon the establishment of a college at Calcutta, and have appointed the Rev. John Barton, M.A., of Christ's College, Cambridge, to be its Principal.

On the 25th ult., the village of Denford, near Thrapstone, Northamptonshire, welcomed with much rejoicing the arrival of the Bishop of Peterborough to reopen their parish church.

The roof of St. Cleer Church, Cornwall, is being restored by the Rev. G. P. Norris, the lord of the manor. Other repairs to the fabric have also been undertaken by the same gentleman. Mr. Bastard, of Kitley, Devon, the lay Rector of St. Cleer, is about to restore the chancel.

On Thursday afternoon a large number of laymen, members of the Church of England, presented to the Archbishops of Canterbury and York, at Lambeth Palace, the address which has been so numerously signed, thanking their Graces for their recent pastoral letters on matters which have recently been productive of some agitation in the Church.

The following testimonials have been presented to the Rev. R. Towers, on his resigning his appointment at St. John-the-Baptist chapel-of-ease, at Islington:—A gold watch and a silver pocket communion service, by the united congregations of St. Paul's, Ballspond, and St. John the Baptist; and a gold chain, a gold pencil-case, a large family Bible, a Church Service, several books, and a photographic album, by private friends.

The first stone of a church to be built in Surrey-square, Kent-road, Newington, and to be called "All Saints' Church," was laid on Wednesday in the presence of the Bishop of London. The site of the sacred building has been presented by the Rev. J. C. Clarke, B.D. (formerly Fellow of St. John's College, Oxford). The cost of the church will be £5000, of which £4000 has been collected.

All Saints' Church, in the populous district of Whitwood Mere, near Castleford, Yorkshire, was consecrated by the Archbishop of York, on the 2nd inst. It is built upon land sold at a mere nominal price by Mr. T. D. Bland, of Kippax, who has not only performed this act of liberality, but previously gave the site for a Sunday-school, and has since added a further gift of land for a parsonage-house.

On the 25th ult. the church of Compton Pauncefoot, near Castle Carey, Somerset, was reopened for Divine service after its enlargement and restoration, a new north aisle and vestry-room having been added, in keeping with the date of the building—viz., the fifteenth century. The principal expense was met by the proprietor of the parish, Mr. Hussey Hunt, who has also recently erected a school-room for the parishioners.

St. Michael and All Angels' Church, Hackney, was consecrated on Monday by the Bishop of London. The site was given by Dr. Williams, and a large portion of the amount required was raised by public subscription. Sittings have been provided for 1200 persons, a large portion being free. The total cost, inclusive of tower and spire, will be about £5500, nearly £500 of which is still to be raised.

THE UNIVERSITIES AND PUBLIC SCHOOLS.—Messrs. Oliver and Boyd, publishers, have given £100 to the Association for the Better Endowment of Edinburgh University.——The University of Aberdeen has conferred the honorary degree of LL.D. on Mr. Andrew Findlater, M.A., editor of "Chambers's Encyclopædia;" on Mr. George Grub, M.A., advocate, in Aberdeen, author of "The Ecclesiastical History of Scotland;" on Mr. David Masson, M.A., editor of *Macmillan's Magazine;* on the Rev. Thomas M'Lauchlan, F.S.A. Scot., minister of the Free Church Gaelic congregation in Edinburgh, author of "Early Scottish Church History;" and on the Rev. John Burnett Pratt, M.A., Incumbent of St. James's Episcopal Church at Cruden, in the diocese of Aberdeen, author of "The Good Old Paths."

PREFERMENTS AND APPOINTMENTS.—The Rev. A. W. Mason, Incumbent of Moulsham, to be Rural Dean of Chelmsford. Rev. H. G. Vernon, Incumbent of St. Stephen's, Liverpool, to be Surrogate for Chester. Rev. W. Watson, Curate of Loughton, to be Surrogate for the archdeaconry Essex. *Rectories:* Rev. C. Burney, Vicar of Halsted, to Wickham Bishops; Rev. T. Harrison, Perpetual Curate of Aslacton to Rackheath. *Incumbency:* Rev. A. Mitton to St. Barnabas, Heaton. *Perpetual Curacies:* Rev. J. Henly to Burcombe; Rev. G. W. Palmer to Claydon, Oxon. *Curacies:* Rev. J. Gammage (late Missionary, S.P.G., in British Columbia) to St. Paul's, Bury, Lancashire; Rev. E. Inman to Bremhill; Rev. L. J. Lovekin to All Saints', Lambeth; Rev. W. Peace to Yatesbury; Rev. V. F. Ransome to Chetnole, Dorset; Rev. H. W. Taylor to Overton and Fyfield, Wilts; Rev. G. P. Tippin to Bishops Cannings.—*Guardian.*

COUNTRY NEWS.

Arrangements have been made for holding an assize at Bristol. The first assize will be held next spring.

Sir George Bowyer has presented the Corporation of Margate with a mace of the date of George II.

The Earl of Harrowby has accepted the office of president of the Birmingham Cattle Show for the next year.

Last week 175 births (those of 87 boys and 88 girls) and 142 deaths (those of 70 males and 72 females) were registered in Dublin.

An outbreak of convicts took place in Portland Island on Tuesday, but the authorities succeeded in restoring order.

Lord Augustus Hervey was on Thursday returned member for West Suffolk, without opposition, in the place of his brother, Earl Jermyn.

The annual meeting of the Salford Working Men's College was held on Tuesday, when the Government prizes and certificates were distributed, and Mr. Massey, M.P., delivered a speech.

At a meeting of the council of the Bath and West of England Agricultural Society, held last Saturday, it was resolved to hold the show for the year 1866 in the city of Salisbury.

The Council of the British Association have resolved that the next congress shall be held on Wednesday, Sept. 6, 1865; of course at Birmingham, as settled by the vote at Bath.

The Rev. C. Hesketh, Rector of North Meols, has offered to present to the inhabitants of Southport thirty acres of land at the north-east boundary of the town for a public park.

John Pritchard recently died at Little Gellian Farm, Llangattock, Monmouthshire, at the ripe age of 105 years. He was in possession of all his faculties to within half an hour of his death.

The first ordinary meeting of the Edinburgh Royal Society was held on Monday night in the Royal Institution. The Duke of Argyll presided and delivered the opening address.

A severe gale on Wednesday week, accompanied with heavy rains, passed over the central and southern districts of Scotland, but no serious accident is anywhere reported.

The council of the Social Science Association are in communication with the authorities in Sheffield as to the nature of the accommodation they can afford in the event of the association deciding to hold their next congress in that town.

In an after-dinner speech at Tamworth, on Wednesday week, Sir Robert Peel said he believed "that, if the Government maintained its position in the House of Commons as it had done during the past three or four years, there would be no dissolution until the year 1866."

A reservoir, three acres in extent, situated at a short distance from Harrington, Cumberland, burst on Wednesday week, and deluged the main street of the town with a stream of water, described as four or five feet in depth. No personal injuries were sustained.

A meeting of the festival committee of the Birmingham Musical Festival was held on Monday to receive the accounts of the recent festival. The statement showed that the total receipts were £13,777. The number of attendances was 14,202.

The Irish Court of Chancery Appeal has confirmed the judgment of the Dublin Court of Bankruptcy, which adjudicated the Bagnalstown and Wexford Railway Company bankrupts. The Lord Chancellor, in giving judgment, said that although in England railway companies could not now be made bankrupts, the law as regards Ireland was different.

The annual report of the Royal Scottish Academy has been published. It briefly narrates the history of the exhibition of 1864 and of the dinner of this year, at which Prince Alfred was present, and mentions several donations of works of art to the Academy, and the deaths of W. Dyce and Sir John Watson Gordon, the late president of the Academy and her Majesty's Limner for Scotland. Mr. George Harvey was elected president.

The election of Mayors for the ensuing year took place in the different municipalities in Ireland on Thursday week. In Dublin, Mr. John Barrington was elected Lord Mayor without opposition. In Drogheda, Alderman James Mathews was elected Mayor, this being the fourth year that he has been appointed to the office. In Belfast, Mr. John Lytle was re-elected. In Cork, Mr. C. J. Cantillon was elected; in Limerick, Mr. J. R. Tinsley; in Londonderry, Mr. Henry Darcus; and in Clonmel, Mr. W. Wright.

Lord Clarence Paget addressed his constituents at Deal yesterday week. The greater part of his speech was taken up with naval matters. He pointed out the reductions which had been made in the expenditure, and held out hopes of still further reductions. The Government would, however, have to propose an increased vote for dock and basin accommodation. He contended, in opposition to Mr. Cobden, that the large expenditure in time of peace was sound policy, and quoted from reports of Mr. Gideon Welles, the United States Secretary of the navy, to prove this. Finally, he defended the Admiralty against charges which had been made against them. A vote of confidence in the noble Lord was passed.

Lord Stanley distributed prizes and certificates of merit yesterday week to the more proficient pupils of the Manchester Mechanics' Institution. Mr. Oliver Heywood, the president of the institute, occupied the chair. His Lordship, in the course of a suggestive address, reviewed the history of mechanics' institutes, their rise, vicissitudes, and present position, and then spoke of their relation to the general education of the people at the present time. He protested against the practice of overworking children in schools, observing that it was positively hurtful to a young child, both mentally and bodily, to keep it learning, or pretending to learn, the greater part of the day. Three or four hours of attention, he thought, was enough for any child. His Lordship also pointed out the advantage of keeping educational and mechanics' institutions free from State aid and State control. Even as regards the Government prizes which he had just been distributing, he believed they would be as well or better without them.

The French and Papal Governments have just concluded a telegraphic treaty. After New-Year's Day a simple despatch from Paris to Rome, and vice versâ, will cost only 5f., instead of 13f. 50c.

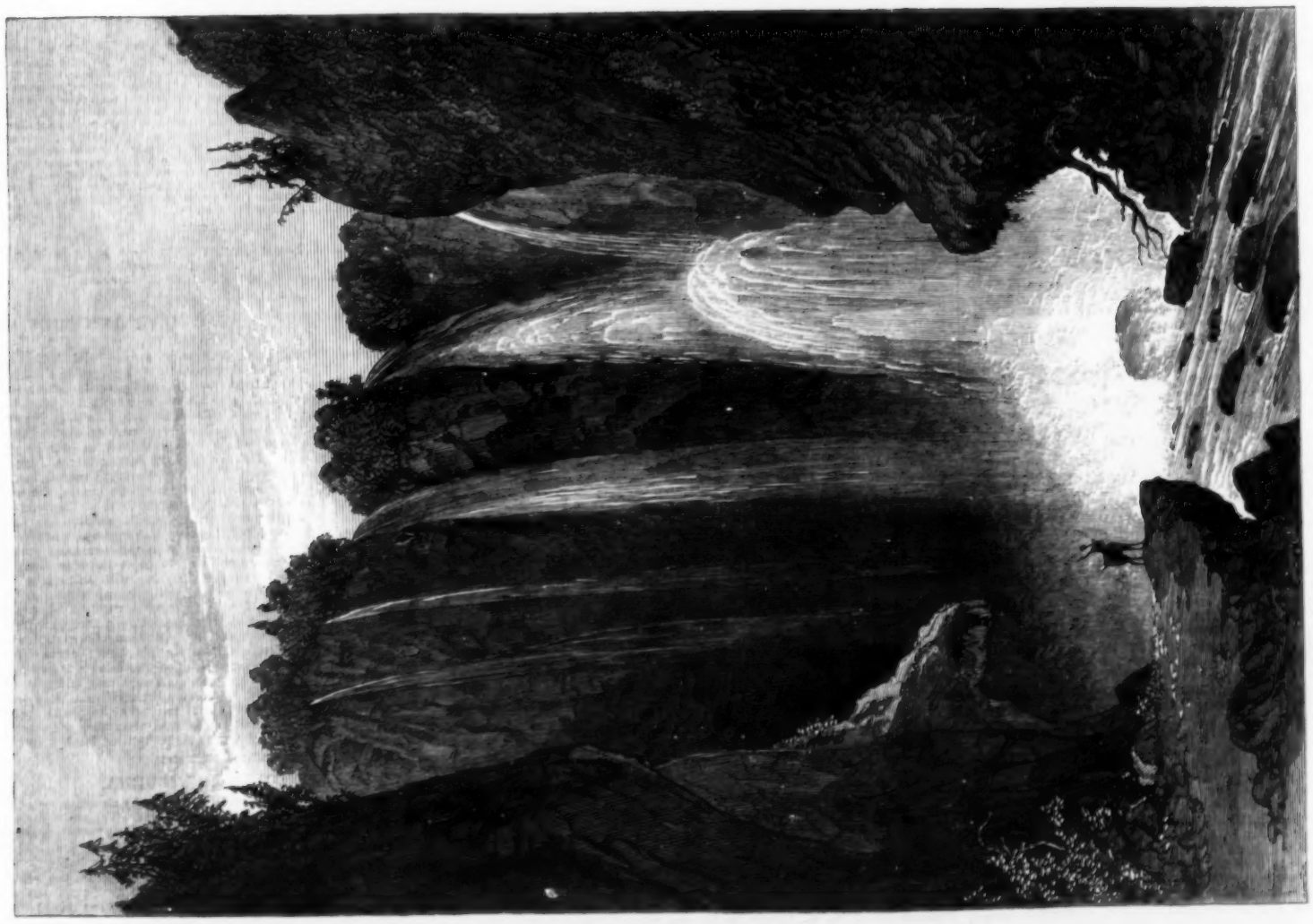
THE CAPTURE OF THE JAPANESE BATTERIES AT SIMONOSAKI.

WE have received from Mr. C. Wirgman, our Special Artist and Correspondent with the allied squadron lately engaged in the Strait of Simonosaki, a further Illustration of the conflict of the 5th and 6th of September, two sketches of which were engraved and published in our Journal three weeks ago. The Engraving in this Number represents the landing-party of sailors and marines advancing to the attack of the stockade which was described in our former narrative of this affair. This took place about six o'clock in the evening of the second day. The Japanese had posted two or three of their heavy guns behind a timber stockade among the trees which covered the top of the hill where the huts or barracks of their soldiery and their principal magazines of ammunition were situated. From this sheltered position they had kept up an annoying fire upon the English and French below, who were occupied during the afternoon in removing the guns from the other batteries close to the shore. Captain Alexander, of the Euryalus, with a few hundred men from that ship and the Conqueror, proceeded at length to the attack of the masked battery, hastily crossing a paddy-field, which was exposed to its full fire, and then ascending a steep, thickly-wooded ravine to the front of the stockade. Several of our men were killed in this arduous service, and Captain Alexander himself was severely wounded in the foot, after which the command was taken by Lieutenant Suther, of the Royal Marines. The Japanese, however, did not wait for their approach; but, after some firing of musketry from behind the trees, set fire to the huts and ran away into the forest, where they could not be pursued. It is said that they were much surprised to find that our seamen were able to fight on land.

PEYTON FALLS, IN VIRGINIA.

WE have engraved on another page a sketch, by an amateur artist, of Peyton Falls, in the Alleghany Mountains, Western Virginia. This romantic and beautiful cascade is on the Falling Spring, a brook tributary to Jackson's River. It is situated in the district or township which was once known as West Augusta, a place remarkable for the courage and patriotism of its inhabitants. This is the place to which Washington referred when he said, in the darkest days of the American Revolution, "Give me but a banner, and I will plant it upon the mountains of West Augusta, and rally around me the men who will raise our bleeding country from the dust and set her free!" Stonewall Jackson, the hero of the present unhappy civil war, as well as many officers of his immortal brigade, was a native of this district. It was near Peyton Falls, indeed, that one of the first battles of the civil war occurred—that of Rich Mountain, in which fell General R. S. Garnett

IN A BRAZILIAN FOREST: WAITING FOR A SHOT.



PEYTON FALLS, ALLEGHANY COUNTY, VIRGINIA.

and Colonel John A. Washington. Peyton Falls is the highest cascade or waterfall in America, being 200 ft. in height, while that of Niagara is only 150 ft. The principal stream, however, is only about 10 yards wide at the top and a little more spread at the bottom of the fall. The water is bright and sparkling, and the stream in other parts is full of trout. Near the cascade there is a mineral spring of rare curative properties

SPORT IN THE FORESTS OF BRAZIL.

Our Illustration represents a scene which may be recognised by the traveller who has chanced to spend a few days in the pursuit of game in the Brazilian forests. The place where the sketch was made is a favourite haunt of the deer which resort to the banks of one of the small mountain streams near Petropolis. When a party of sportsmen arrive at this spot, their dogs are put into the woods to rouse the deer, which, when disturbed, generally follow the course of the nearest stream. The rifleman hides himself behind a rock, and patiently awaits the approach of the deer. It must be confessed, however, that his patience is too often not rewarded with a single shot. In general shooting in the Brazilian woods is not a very exciting sport. There are various sorts of fine game birds; but, owing to the immense size of the forest, it is impossible to get at them, except by waiting under certain trees, upon the berries of which the birds are accustomed to feed. Moreover, in all his sylvan excursions in Brazil the sportsman is obliged to keep a very sharp look out for snakes. So that, except for the adventurous novelty of the situation one might prefer to take one's pleasure on a Scottish moor.

THE WAR IN JAPAN: THE NAVAL BRIGADE AND MARINES STORMING THE STOCKADE AT SIMONOSAKI, SEPTEMBER 6TH.—FROM A SKETCH BY OUR SPECIAL ARTIST.—SEE PAGE 582.

BIRTHS.

On the 17th ult., at Archangel, the wife of Charles Renny, Esq., H.B.M.'s Consul, of a daughter.

On Oct. 31, at Loodianah, Punjaub, the wife of Charles P. Elliott, Esq., Bengal Civil Service, of a son.

On the 23rd ult., at Alexandria, Egypt, the wife of Charles T. Joyce, Esq., of a daughter.

At Bruton-street, the wife of the Hon. Gerald Noel, M.P., of a son.

MARRIAGES.

On the 17th ult., at St. Paul's Church, Charlotte Town, Prince Edward Island, B.N.A., by the Rev. David Fitzgerald, Rector, Albert, fifth son of the Hon. Charles Hensley, Commander, R.N., formerly of Newlands, Charlotte Town Royalty, now of 40, Burlington-road, St. Stephen's-square, London, to Sarah Wastie, only daughter of the late Stephen W. De Blois, of Halifax, Nova Scotia.

On the 5th inst., at Shalford, Surrey, by the Rev. Godfrey Faussett, assisted by the Rev. Henry Palmer and the Rev. R. B. Matthews, Vicar, John Liddell, Esq., Commander Royal Navy, eldest son of Sir John Liddell, K.C.B., to Sidney Elizabeth, eldest daughter of the late George Carew Gibson, of Bradston Brook, Surrey, and Sandgate Lodge, Sussex.

DEATHS.

On the 1st inst., at Brislington Hall, near Bristol, James I. Clayfield Ireland, Esq., Magistrate and Deputy-Lieutenant for the county of Somerset, aged 60.

On the 6th ult., at Antigua, deeply lamented, John Cleveland, second son of Paul Bryant Sherdiche, Esq., and nephew of Lieutenant-General Cleveland, and of the late Colonel Baird, 66th Regiment. Friends will please accept this intimation.

On the 2nd inst., at Hanwell-green, Middlesex, Elizabeth, the beloved wife of North Rees, Esq., aged 53.

On the 3rd inst., at North Foreland Lodge, Isle of Thanet, Matilda, the beloved wife of Robert M. Isacke, Esq., Commander late E.I.C.'s Maritime Service.

At Grafton-street, the Countess of Bective.

On the 5th inst., at Castle Howard, the Earl of Carlisle.

*** *The charge for the insertion of Births, Marriages, and Deaths is Five Shillings for each announcement.*

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK ENDING DEC. 17.

SUNDAY, Dec. 11.—Third Sunday in Advent. Death of Theodore Neuhoff, the last King of Corsica, 1756.

MONDAY, 12.—Commemoration Day at the Charterhouse, London; death of Thomas Sutton, the founder, 1611. Death of Mark Isambard Brunel, constructor of the Thames Tunnel, 1849.

TUESDAY, 13.—Lucy, virgin and martyr. Opening of the Council of Trent, 1545. Full moon, 7h. 12m. a.m.

WEDNESDAY, 14.—Ember Week. Henry Sacheverell, the High Church clergyman, impeached by the House of Commons for his seditious sermon, 1709. His Royal Highness the Prince Consort died, 1861.

THURSDAY, 15.—Death of Timoleon, the liberator of Syracuse, 337 B.C. Abdication of Rienzi, the Roman Tribune, 1347. Death of Ignatius Sancho, the literary negro, 1780.

FRIDAY, 16.—O Sapientia! Death of Wilhelm Grimm, 1859. Passports for British subjects in France abolished, 1863.

SATURDAY, 17.—Birth of Ludwig Beethoven, 1770; of Sir Humphry Davy, 1779. End of the "O.P." riots at Covent Garden Theatre, 1809.

TIMES OF HIGH WATER AT LONDON BRIDGE,
FOR THE WEEK ENDING DECEMBER 17, 1864.

Sunday.		Monday.		Tuesday.		Wednesday.		Thursday.		Friday.		Saturday.	
M	A	M	A	M	A	M	A	M	A	M	A	M	A
h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m
—	0 23	0 48	1 16	1 40	2 4	2 26	2 47	3 9	3 29	3 48	4 9	4 26	4 44

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Positively the Last Six Nights previous to the commencement of the CHRISTMAS PANTOMIME.—Miss Louisa Pyne and Miss Susan Galton; Mr. Swift and Mr. Sims Reeves.—Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, SONNAMBULA. Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday, FAUST.

THEATRE ROYAL, DRURY-LANE.—Managers, Messrs. EDMUND FALCONER and F. B. CHATTERTON.—Open for the Season for the performance of the Legitimate Drama.—Immense success of the production of MACBETH. The Free-list entirely suspended, the public press excepted. Notice.—Notwithstanding the great success which has attended the revival of Shakspeare's Tragedy of "Macbeth," the Managers beg to announce to the public that it cannot be performed longer than Saturday, Dec. 17, in consequence of the preparations necessary for the production of the Grand Christmas Pantomime. On MONDAY, DEC. 12, and during the Week, will be performed Shakspeare's Tragedy of MACBETH. Principal characters by Mr. Phelps, Messrs. Creswick, H. Marston, R. Roxby, G. Belmore, A. Rayner, Edmund Phelps, H. Sinclair, Bartleman, G. F. Neville, J. Neville, Warde, G. Spencer, Arthur Matthison, Marler, &c.; Miss Helen Faucit, Miss Atkinson, Miss Rebecca Isaacs, Miss Emma Heywood, &c. Lock's celebrated music, numerous and efficient chorus, and increased orchestra; with new and characteristic scenery by Mr. William Beverly. Preceded by, each Evening, the new and original Farce, entitled A YOUNG LAD FROM THE COUNTRY. Principal characters by Messrs. G. Belmore, G. F. Neville, Fitzjames, G. Spencer, Miss Helen Howard, and Miss Rose Leclercq. Doors open at Half-past Six; commence at a Quarter to Seven, and terminate at a Quarter past Eleven. On Monday, Dec. 19, and Tuesday, the 20th, in consequence of the numerous applications, Shakspeare's Play of CYMBELINE, being the Last Nights of Performance previous to the Christmas Holidays. On MONDAY, DEC. 26, will be produced the GRAND DRURY LANE CHRISTMAS ANNUAL PANTOMIME, entitled HARLEQUIN HOP O' MY THUMB; or, Harlequin and the Ogre of the Seven Leagued Boots, written by E. L. Blanchard; for the scenical illustration of which the personal services of that distinguished Artist, Mr. William Beverley, will be exclusively devoted to this theatre. The whole to be produced under the direction of Mr. Robert Roxby.

THEATRE ROYAL, HAYMARKET.—Mdlle. BEATRICE will appear in her New Character in SUNNY VALE FARM on MONDAY, DEC. 12; and on TUESDAY, DEC. 13, and during the Week, will repeat her popular performance of MDLLE. DE BELLE ISLE every evening. After the play the revival of NO SONG NO SUPPER—the music by Storace, the characters by Mr. Compton, Mr. Farren, Mr. Arthur, Mr. Weathersby, Miss Louise Keeley, Miss Nelly Moore, and Mrs. Villiers. Concluding with OUR MARY ANNE.

ROYAL LYCEUM THEATRE.—Mr. Fechter will perform Ruy Blas for Six Nights.—MONDAY, and during the Week, at Eight o'Clock, RUY BLAS—Messrs. Fechter, Ryder, Fitzpatrick, F. Charles, M'Intyre, Raymond, Moreland, Collett, Clifford, Gardon; Misses Carlotta Leclercq, H. Percy, and Mrs. Winstanley. Preceded by, at Seven o'Clock, MY WIFE'S OUT—Messrs. H. Widdicombe, F. Charles, Miss H. Percy, and Miss E. Lavenne. Concluding with NURSEY CHICKWEED. Doors open at Half-past Six. Box-office open daily from Eleven till Five.

ROYAL ST. JAMES'S THEATRE.—Under the Management of Mr. BENJAMIN WEBSTER.—Last Week but one of the present Management. On MONDAY and during the Week, THE BARONET ABROAD; or, The Rustic Prima Donna—Mr. Frank Matthews, Miss Constance Roden. SYBILLA; or, STEP BY STEP—Mr. and Mrs. C. Mathews. To conclude with WOODCOCK'S LITTLE GAME—Mr. Charles Mathews, Mrs. Frank Matthews.

NEW THEATRE ROYAL, ADELPHI.—Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. BENJAMIN WEBSTER.—MONDAY and during the Week, THE WORKMEN OF PARIS: Messrs. B. Webster, Billington, R. Phillips; Mrs. Stirling, Miss Woolgar, and Miss H. Simms. And, DOING BANTING—Mr. J. Clarke. Commence at Seven.

ROYAL OLYMPIC THEATRE.—Lessee, Mr. HORACE WIGAN.—MONDAY, and during the Week, THE GIRL I LEFT BEHIND ME. After which, THE HIDDEN HAND—Mr. H. Neville, Misses L. Foote and K. Terry. To conclude with MY WIFE'S BONNET. Box-office open from Ten till Five.

ROYAL AGRICULTURAL HALL.—GRAND NATIONAL CHRISTMAS ENTERTAINMENT.—HIPPODROME! CIRCUS! and GRAND SPECTACLE! OPEN CHRISTMAS EVE, SATURDAY, DEC. 24. PRICE'S GREAT SPANISH EQUESTRIAN TROUPE FROM MADRID AND LISBON. 100 Horses; Splendid Group of Performing Lions, and the most Numerous and Talented Corps de Artistes that ever yet appeared in London.—(See future Advertisements.)

MR. and Mrs. GERMAN REED, with Mr. JOHN PARRY, in THE RIVAL COMPOSERS, THE BARD AND HIS BIRTHDAY, and MRS. ROSELEAF AT THE SEASIDE, Every Evening (except Saturday) at Eight, Saturday Afternoon at Three. ROYAL GALLERY OF ILLUSTRATION, 14, Regent-street Unreserved Seats, 1s., 2s.; Stalls, 3s. and 5s.

MR. ARTHUR SKETCHLEY will APPEAR at the EGYPTIAN HALL, Piccadilly, in his New Entertainments, entitled PARIS, and MRS. BROWN AT THE PLAY, Every Evening (except Saturday) at Eight; and Saturday Mornings at Three. Stalls, 3s.; Second Seats, 2s.; Gallery, 1s. The Box-office at the Hall open between the hours of Eleven and Five daily.

THURTON'S "ODD FOLKS;" with Portraits of the Japanese Dandy, the Model Policeman, and other Novelties, at the GREAT FREE-TRADE HALL, MANCHESTER, THIS EVENING, SATURDAY, DEC. 10; Rotherham, Monday, 12; Doncaster, 13; East Retford, 14; Lincoln, 15; Huntingdon, 16.—Manager, Mr. J. MORFEY.

COMMODORE NUTT and MINNIE WARREN.—The celebrated COMMODORE NUTT—the smallest man living, twenty years of age, twenty-nine inches high, and weighing but twenty-four pounds—having concluded his famous three years' engagement in America, for which he received from Mr. P. T. Barnum the munificent sum of 30,000 dollars, has the honour to inform the public of London that he will make his first appearance in the Old World at ST. JAMES'S HALL, PICCADILLY, on MONDAY, DEC. 12, 1864, assisted by the wonderful Miss MINNIE WARREN, sister of Mrs. General Tom Thumb, the smallest lady of her age in the world, eighteen years old, twenty-four inches high, weighing nineteen pounds only; a bachelor and belle of mature age, and more than usual intelligence, and weighing, together, less than an ordinary child of three years—Nature's smallest edition of her choicest works. This Elfin couple will give TWO LEVEES DAILY, at Three and Eight p.m., in a most interesting melange of Songs, Dances, Duets, &c., including Commodore Nutt's celebrated personations, the Drummer Boy, Sailor, Patrick O'Fogerty, the Cure, Drunkard, Stump Speaker (with ten changes of costume), Jim Crow (in the character of a Crow), and his wonderful feats of Prestidigitation, &c., and Miss Minnie Warren in her Songs, Dances, and Duets, appearing in three different costumes at each Levée, from her costly and magnificent wardrobe.

There will be a change of Programme at each *Levée*.

The magnificent Miniature Coach, drawn by Four of the Smallest Ponies in the world—the whole a present from General Tom Thumb to Commodore Nutt—attended by Elfin Coachmen and Footmen in livery, will convey these Little Wonders between their hotel and St. James's Hall.

Admission, 1s., 2s., and 3s. To be obtained at the Hall. A few Reserved Stalls, 5s. each. Children under Ten Years of Age, Half-price to the 2s., 3s., and 5s. places.

DUBLIN INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION of FINE ARTS and MANUFACTURES, 1865. Under the Patronage of Her Majesty the Queen. The 31st of December being the latest day for receiving demands for space, Intending Exhibitors are requested to apply without delay. The requisite forms can be obtained at the House of the Society of Arts, John-street, Adelphi, London, W.C.; or at the Exhibition Palace, Dublin.
By order, HENRY PARKINSON, Secretary.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—THIS DAY.—SATURDAY CONCERT, and AFTERNOON PROMENADE.—Vocalists: Mdme. Kenneth, Signor Fortuna, and Signor Marchesi. Chorus of One Hundred Voices Conductor, Mr. Manns. Programme includes Symphony "Seasons," Spohr (first time); Cantata, "Meeresstille and Glückliche Fahrt" Beethoven; and Overture, "Der Freyschutz," Weber. Palace warmed; brilliantly lighted for afternoon promenade and great Fancy Fair. Admission: Half-a-Crown; or Guinea Season Tickets, free; Reserved Seats, Half-a-Crown.
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The Directors propose to erect on the site of the existing houses a handsome and substantial building, containing on the ground and first floors several large and smaller sale-rooms, with a spacious entrance-saloon on the ground floor; on the second and third floors, which are to be approached by a separate entrance and staircase, numerous rooms and other accommodation, which can either be used as sale-rooms, or for arbitrations, or let for offices. The basement will contain suitable refreshment accommodation and additional cellarage or offices, to be also let off.
It is proposed to keep a classified register of the prices of property sold at the Auction Mart, on the principle of the present Estate Exchange, to which shareholders will have access on payment of a small fee, thus affording a useful reference for the purpose of valuations and otherwise.
The revenue of the company will consist:—First, of rents to be received from the auctioneers for the use of the sale-rooms, the demand for which is continually increasing; secondly, from rent to be received in respect of the refreshment department; and thirdly, from rents to be received for the offices, arbitration-rooms, cellars, &c., from which sources the Directors confidently expect a most satisfactory dividend will be realised.
The Directors are desirous that the undertaking should be supported by their professional brethren, and applications for shares from auctioneers, both in London and the country, will therefore receive a preference in the allotment.
The undertaking originates with the Directors. There will be no "promotion money" paid to anyone, either directly or indirectly, and the preliminary expenses will be confined to such as are actually necessary to be incurred.
The Articles of Association can be inspected at the offices of the solicitors to the company.
The shareholders will incur no liability beyond the amount of shares alloted to them. Applications for shares must be made upon the annexed form. Each applicant will be required to pay to the bankers of the company £1 per share on the number of shares applied for, and upon allotment, to make a further payment of 4 per share on the shares allotted to him. The remaining calls will be made at such times and for such sums as the requirements of the company demand.
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There will be an examination in the ensuing May for a scholarship founded by the Lord Bishop of Worcester. The scholarship will be worth £30 per annum for three years, and will be tenable at the College.
Information regarding the regulation and management of the College may be obtained from the Head Master.
Application for a few remaining shares to be made to the Secretary, HENRY ALDRICH, Esq., Orwell Lodge, Malvern, from whom, also, any further information may be obtained.
Malvern, Nov. 1, 1864.

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THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

LONDON: SATURDAY, DECEMBER 10, 1864.

AGAIN, England, in peace and prosperity, is preparing for the great Christian festival, and again she has to look sadly across the sea, where those who own her blood and speak her language are engaged in the fourth year of a frightful war. It would seem, indeed, that every mail is destined to bring tidings that the ordinary horrors of strife are increased by some new barbarism. We have heard of whole districts laid waste; we have heard of prisoners being placed under fire; we have heard of other prisoners murdered in cold blood, by one side as a deed of vengeance, by the other as a deed of reprisal; we have heard of a great army marching off mysteriously to strike some heavy blow, and lighting up conflagration all along its way. The last mails add another feature to the savage story. We learn that eight or nine great fires broke out in New York the same night, and that they were the work of a body of leagued incendiaries in the interest of the Confederates. They selected places where numbers of persons were assembled, some of the localities being places of amusement, and, but for early discovery, the most frightful carnage would have been wrought. It is no longer in the mouths of those who have in any degree aided or abetted in these villanous attempts to complain of the rough deeds of Federal commanders. Those who could plan the firing of theatres, where, even if the fire were subdued, the panic must almost inevitably cause loss of life to women and children, are beyond the pale of civilisation. It will be useless to endeavour to lay the crime to the charge of volunteer desperadoes. We have ourselves read, weeks ago, notice in the Southern papers that such schemes were in hand; and we observed that they were applauded as a rightful revenge for atrocities stated—and, we dare say, with truth—to have been committed by Federal soldiers. In short, the war has now assumed a character so savage that we cannot but feel that if a stern military dictator of real genius, of the Napoleonic order, could arise and could bring the war to a sudden and violent end it would be well for humanity. The pictures now presented all over the Union, and what was the Union, are too shocking to be the subject of ordinary social conversation, and the topic is now put aside with sadness. And we write this but a few days from another Christmas Day.

At the season now rapidly approaching all who are really open to the sacred influence of the time will assuredly ask themselves whether Englishmen have done their duty to their American brethren in regard to the war. It is enough that at our Christmas we are afraid to talk of America; it would be unhappy indeed did we feel that any conduct of ours had conduced to the continuance of the strife, or that any exertions to terminate it had been wanting on our part. In no Pharisaical or self-righteous spirit we say that England may approach her altars and gather round her social boards with no reproach of conscience in this respect. From the first hour of the war to the present moment we have been resolutely neutral, while we have lost no chance of mediation that would not have been construed into offence. The Foreign Minister of this country has declared, in the House of Lords, his conviction that the subjugation of the South would not be for the good of the Union nor for that of the African. To say that the British press has never expressed exultation at the disruption of an empire that had ever menaced us and our colonies is only to say that the organs of public opinion have been faithful, and that the spirit of Englishmen has been generous and kindly as of old. But the press deserves more than negative credit. The Federal population has never been aided by its own Government to know the real progress of the war or its various chances; but the English press has endeavoured to give this information with fidelity, in order to make our American brethren understand the true character of the work which their rulers have persuaded them can be accomplished by force. If, therefore, the North has chosen to commit itself to the war, and to elect a chief who has since pledged himself to carry it on until one party shall succumb from exhaustion, the terrible decision has been arrived at in face of the whole truth, which has been supplied by the press of England. We will not speak of certain well-meant, if injudicious, remonstrances which have been addressed to the Northerners, because we have not approved that kind of interference, and it is not upon sentimental grounds that a great people should be asked to alter its policy. The best thing that we could do for our American brethren was to tell them the truth, which they could not get from their own statesmen or journalists, and this has been done.

Therefore, we may say without pride, but also without hesitation, that England has no guilt in respect to this war. At the festival which is approaching, and when thoughts and words of kindness should be the rule with all, we shall have little to say of America; but the lightest-minded will wish, earnestly, that long before another recurrence of the great feast the sword will have been sheathed. But beyond this England, as a nation, is not called upon to make her Christmas sad with American memories. We have done our duty, and we have a right to the peaceful enjoyment of the feast.

DAVID ROBERTS, R.A.

Whenever the story of David Roberts's life shall be written, it will be found to have great and varied interest, in addition to that which attaches to his works. The artist himself has left many journals and diaries of his eventful life and extensive travels; and these invaluable materials for the biographer are said to abound with personal anecdotes of adventures and of the many distinguished persons whom he met. Then the facts of his earlier life disclose a most striking instance of "self-help." Among the large proportion of self-made artists of all ages a prominent place will always be assigned to the man who from a poor journeyman house-painter ("decorative," if you will) became a Royal Academician and achieved a European reputation. And all this was done without adventitious aid of any kind. David Roberts never had, as he himself averred, help or instruction from any teacher or professor; he had no academic education or scholastic learning to aid in winning fame and position; no brilliant conversational parts or other accomplishments to attract and secure patronage and popularity. Yet he would have been the last person in the world to claim to be a "heaven-born genius" in art. He was simply an energetic, persevering, self-relying man, brave, honest, faithful. All honour to these self-made men! That may be a good man and true who, wafted by Prosperity and piloted by Fortune, has but to glide with the current into port; but he must be so who struggling against wind and tide, with, as it might seem, only a grim fate at the helm and a thick cloud at the prow, yet, through his own strong arm alone, makes the haven.

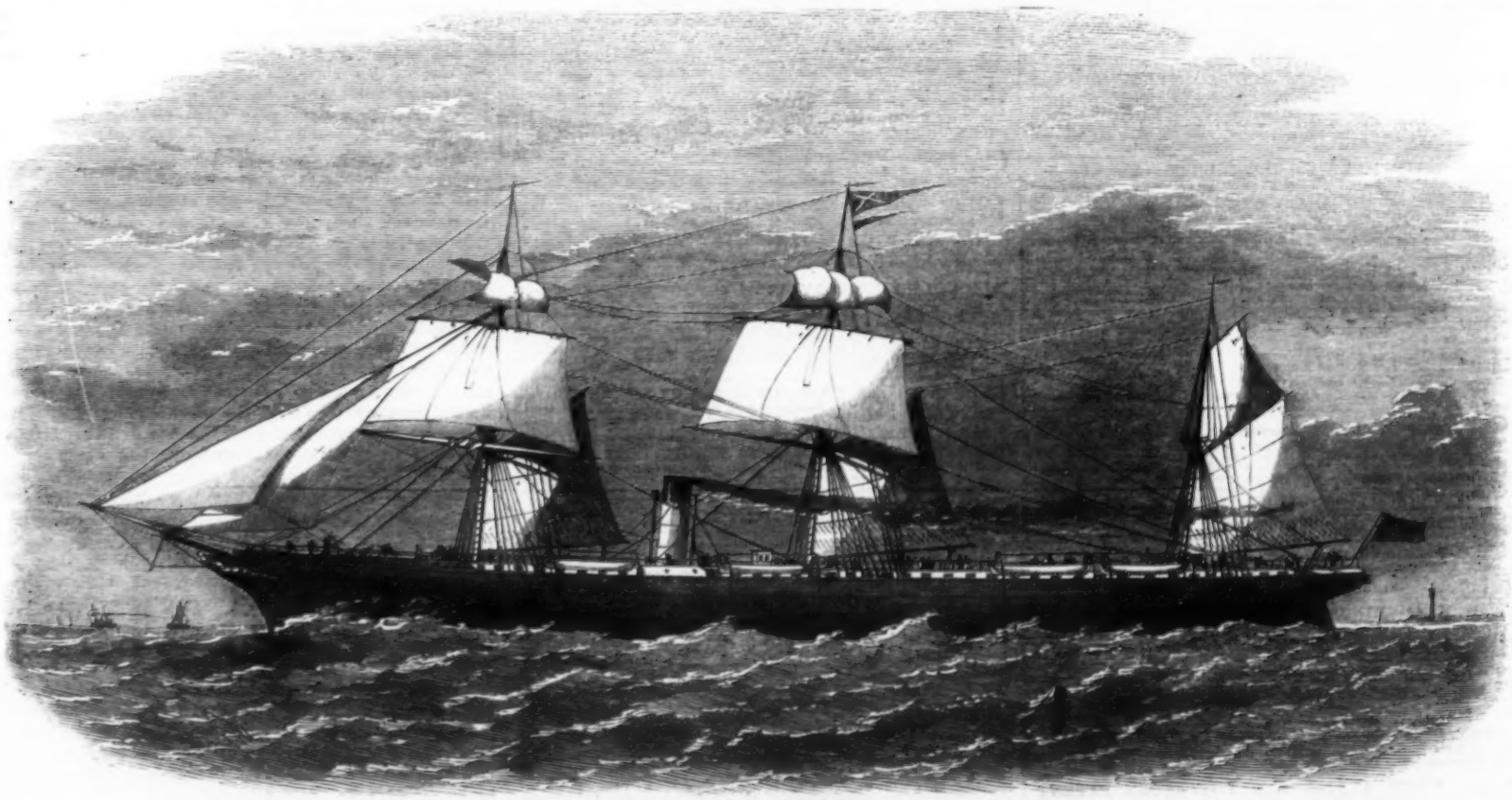
David Roberts was born at Stockbridge, Edinburgh, four years before the close of last century, and, as we have intimated, served an apprenticeship to a decorative house-painter. But even when a child little Davey had shown a fondness for drawing by sketching houses and landscapes on the walls at school and at home. Moreover, the decorator—Beugo by name—to whom he was articled seems to have been a man of talent, as we should infer from the fact that a second apprentice, who served along with Roberts, became afterwards distinguished. We allude to Mr. D. R. Hay, the well-known writer on the science of harmonies in colours and forms, and the practice of decorative art. Roberts must have studied art during his apprenticeship, for, towards the close of it, he painted a view of Abbotsford which Scott is said to have greatly admired. Soon after this, too, he obtained an engagement to paint scenes in a second-rate theatre in Edinburgh, and later for the principal theatres of Glasgow and Edinburgh. Contrary to what has been asserted, the famous Trustees' Academy at Edinburgh cannot fairly claim the future R.A. among the number of her pupils who have risen to eminence. All he did there was to begin a drawing of a hand; but this beginning was so unpromising that he was dissuaded from proceeding further with the usual course of academic study from "the figure."

From Mr. Murray, the principal of the Edinburgh Theatre, Roberts got an introduction to Elliston, manager of Drury Lane Theatre; and, when only twenty-six, he became scene-painter at Drury Lane, and also, in the days of Macready, at Covent Garden, through which he became well known to the metropolitan public, as did also his firm friend—still spared to us—Clarkson Stanfield. Another friend of this early time was David's countryman, "Jock Wilson," the landscape-painter (of the Society of British Artists); and these, with other artist confrères, used, like Reynolds and his club, at the Turk's Head, in Greek-street, to meet nightly at a tavern just over Westminster Bridge. Later, when Roberts had won his associateship, he joined the choice spirits of the Garrick Club, and for many years, down to the last, was the acknowledged president of the smoking-room.

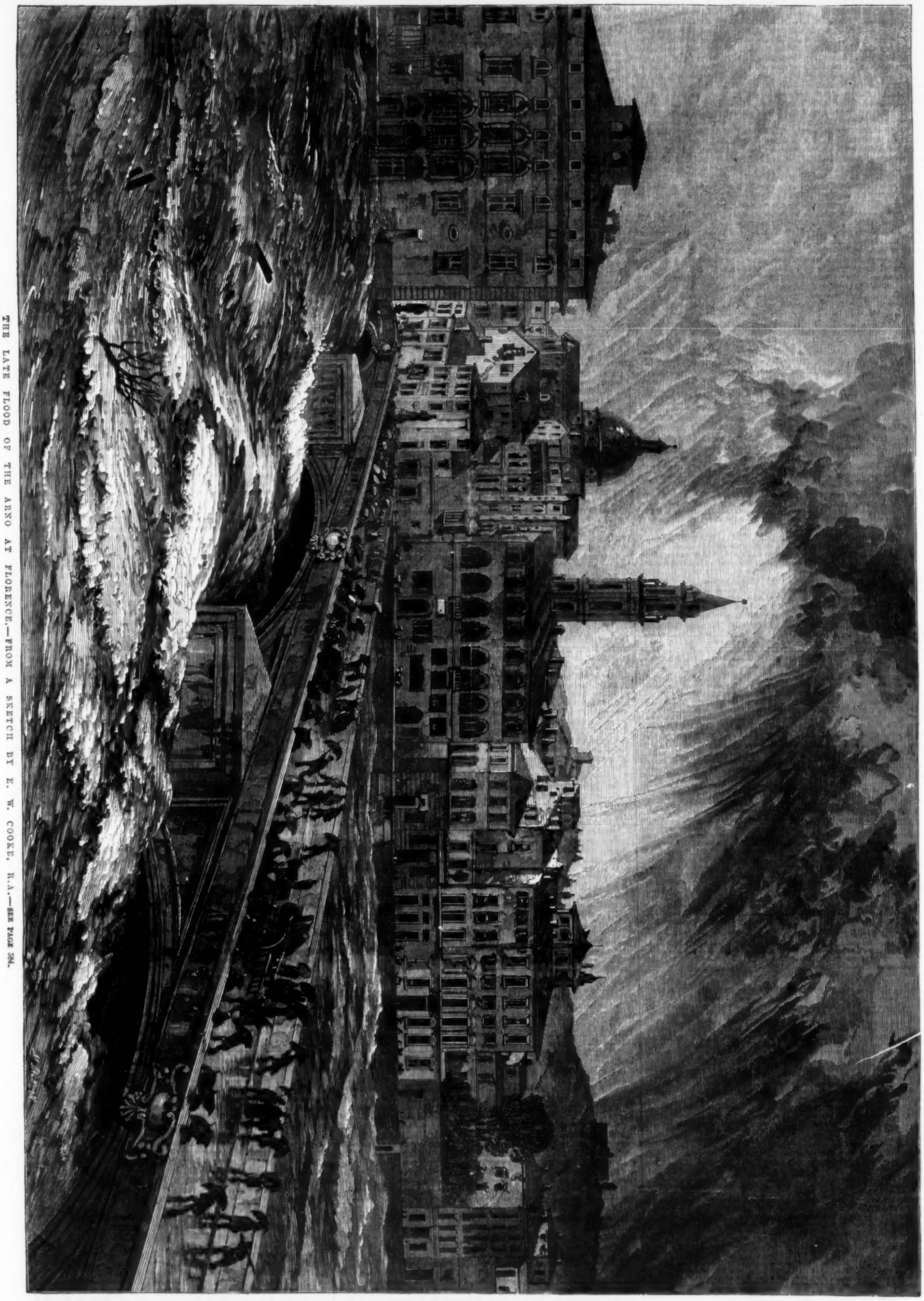
THE LATE DAVID ROBERTS, R.A.

In the practice of scene-painting Roberts acquired his skill in composition and light and shade, his extraordinary rapidity and command of hand, and that thorough knowledge of perspective, which, according to Mr. Ruskin, he alone among English artists, with the exception of Samuel Prout, possessed. "Scene-painting is an art which demands rare ability, and is only depreciated by those who do not understand its exigencies and who forget that it has been practised by such men as Salvator Rosa, Canaletto, Inigo Jones (who first introduced into England appropriate scenic decorations to the Royal masques), Loutherbourg, Pugin, and the illustrious pair, Roberts and Stanfield. Nor must we exclude from the rank of distinguished artists such men as Burford, Beverley, Telbin Grieve and Parris.

Wonderful stories are told o Roberts having executed the whole scenery for "wings" and "flats" to compose some magnificent spectacle within a few hours of the time it was to be shown to the public. For the entertainment, called "At Home," of his friend Charles Mathews the elder, Roberts is said to have painted the scenery and to have invented a new and surprising effective arrangement of picture and performer. As from house-decoration to scene-painting in distemper, so from the latter to sketching in water-colours, the step is not great. It was not long before, through the medium of engravings and owing to their foreign subjects, the sketches of Roberts extended his reputation, beyond England, to the Continent. One of the most eloquent passages ever written by Thackeray was penned in praise of Roberts' sketches. When, however, the scene-painter sets himself to produce finished pictures in oil which are to be leisurely and critically examined under wholly new conditions, we may naturally expect to find some superficiality and license of various kinds; yet, whatever we may think of some later works, nothing of the kind is to be found in Roberts's earlier pictures—as, for example, those in the Sheepshanks Collection. We do not know the precise time when the artist finally laid aside the pound-brush, the whitewash-pail, and kettle of hot size. Though his name appears in the Royal Academy catalogue as early as 1826, he did not regularly contribute till several years later. Like Stanfield, Roberts was for some years a member of the Society of British Artists, and ultimately he became vice-president. His first celebrated picture was "The Departure of the Israelites from Egypt," engraved by Quilley, a direct competition with the style of John Martin. During some ten years from 1827 great part of his time was occupied travelling in France, the Netherlands, Germany, Italy Spain, and filling portfolios which supplied the illustrations of the "Landscape Annual," the "Pilgrims of the Rhine," by Sir Edward Bulwer Lytton; the Spain (with the tints just then invented) &c.; and from which he painted innumerable architectural views, interiors and exteriors, ecclesiastical and secular. Having paid the fine for detaching himself from the Society of British Artists, he was elected A.R.A. in 1838, and in the autumn of that year started on a tour in the East, during which he took hundreds of sketches—for the most part executed in pencil, but often with the addition of a few washes of water colour. Nearly two hundred and fifty of these were lithographed by Mr. Louis Haghe, and, accompanied by eloquent descriptions by Dr. Croly, were published by Moon in four quarto volumes, as "Sketches in the Holy Land, Syria, Idumea, Arabia, Egypt, and Nubia." The artist received £3000 for the copyright, and the popularity of this splendid work abroad as well as at home was remarkable. Much of this was doubtless due to the comparatively novel interest of the subjects; for twenty-five years ago the facilities of travelling anywhere, but especially in the East, were not what



THE NEW SCREW STEAM-SHIP CUBA, OF THE CUNARD LIVERPOOL AND NEW YORK LINE.—SEE PAGE 585.



THE LATE FLOOD OF THE ARNO AT FLORENCE.—FROM A SKETCH BY E. W. COOKE, R.A.—SEE PAGE 584.

they are now. The sketches taken in this tour went to the common stock of subjects for future pictures; but a special and memorable utilisation of the visit to Jerusalem appeared in 1849, as the large and highly popular picture of the "Destruction of Jerusalem by the Romans." In 1841 Roberts was elected R.A. From the Queen the artist received a commission for the memorial picture of the "Inauguration of the Great Exhibition of 1851." At intervals, during the last years, the painter was engaged upon a series of pictures of London for Mr. Lucas, the contractor. He had been working on one of these, representing St. Paul's from Ludgate-hill, on the morning of the day (the 25th ult.) on which he died. He left his residence, 7, Fitzroy-street, somewhat earlier than was his wont, in order to meet his friend, Mr. Ward, R.A., at the French Gallery, Pall-mall, to consider the award of the prizes offered to contributors to the Winter Exhibition at that gallery, in the adjudication of which these gentlemen were asked to assist. While walking in Berners-street he was seized with apoplexy, and to those who ran to his assistance could only utter the words, "Fitzroy-street—take me home." After this he became perfectly insensible till he expired, at seven o'clock the same evening. He was buried at Norwood Cemetery on the 2nd inst., in a private manner, in accordance with his wish.

The artist has left behind him, besides his journals, a kind of "Liber Veritatis" similar to that of Claude—i.e., two quarto volumes, containing some 250 pen-and-ink sketches of, probably, all the principal pictures he painted, with written, descriptive, and other particulars, the whole very methodically arranged.

Mr. Roberts married early: his wife, a lady of great beauty, was the model of Mary Queen of Scots in Sir William Allan's celebrated picture of the landing of that unfortunate Queen at Leith. He leaves but one daughter, who married the son of Mr. Bicknell, the noted collector, whose pictures were sold at Christie's last year.

We have only space to add that Mr. Roberts was a vice-president of the Artists' Benevolent Fund; and his kind-heartedness might be exemplified in many stories of his liberality to less fortunate brethren of the brush. Nor did he ever forget or disown his early connection with the drama. As one dwelling for decayed actors has been erected in connection with the Royal Dramatic College at Maybury by the munificence of Clarkson Stanfield, so another has been by a second Royal Academician and scene-painter, David Roberts.

The Portrait we have engraved is from a photograph by Messrs. J. and C. Watkins, of Parliament-street.

METROPOLITAN NEWS.

The Metropolitan Board of Works have directed £45,652 to be paid for the purchase of the land for Finsbury Park.

The funds of the University College Hospital have been enriched by £375, portion of a bequest made by the late Mdme. de Lilly to her Majesty for the benefit of the poor in London.

Between Saturday night and Monday morning the strong-room of Messrs. Baum, bullion dealers, Lombard-street, was entered by thieves, who carried off coin and notes to the amount of about £3000.

At the weekly meeting of the City Court of Sewers on Tuesday Dr. Letheby reported that 265 houses had been inspected during the week, and he submitted twenty-eight places for sanitary improvement. The officers had condemned 2020 lb. of meat as unfit for human food, most of which was in a diseased condition.

The fifth annual ball for the benefit of the Dramatic College took place on Wednesday at St. James's Hall, Professor Anderson having removed for the night to make way for the dancers. A very large and brilliant company attended, and the arrangements were well planned and well carried out by the energetic ball committee.

The new ride in St. James's Park, for the exclusive use of equestrians—with the exception of those exercising horses, which will not be permitted—was completed on Tuesday. The ride extends from the lodge at Storey's-gate, Great George-street, Westminster, to Buckingham-gate, Pimlico. It will be opened to the public on Saturday (to-day).

At a fire which took place in Mark-lane on Tuesday morning great courage was shown by Fire-escape Conductor Miller, who brought several members of a family out of the flames. Hearing that a little boy was left behind, he rushed back and snatched him from his bed, but became so exhausted that the boy and his deliverer both fell, and would have perished had not a brother conductor come to his assistance.

Yesterday week a meeting was held at the Horns, Kennington Park, in order that the initiatory steps towards forming a workman's club and institute might be taken. Mr. Samuel Morley occupied the chair. Several speeches were made, and resolutions to support the movement were passed.——A similar meeting was held the same night in the Hatfield-street school-room, Golden-lane, Mr. Alderman Lusk in the chair, and resolutions favourable to the formation of such a club were passed.

Mr. Layard addressed a meeting of his constituents at the Bridge House Hotel yesterday week. He reviewed the proceedings of the last Session of Parliament, dwelling especially on the foreign topics. A vote of confidence in the hon. gentleman was passed.——Mr. Locke, M.P., addressed his constituents at the Bridge House Hotel on Tuesday evening. A great portion of his address was made up of allusions to local topics. He particularly urged the desirability of converting the whole of the London parishes into one union, with the object of equalising the poor rate. He received a vote of confidence.

Last week the births of 1963 children—1016 boys and 947 girls—were registered in London. In the ten corresponding weeks of the years 1854-63 the average number (corrected) was 1929.——The mortality of London is still high, though the deaths returned for the week that ended on Saturday—namely, 1624, are not quite so numerous as those of the previous week, and are less by 118 than the number in the week that ended Nov. 19. The average number of deaths in the forty-eighth week of ten previous years is, with a correction for increase of population, 1538. The number registered is in excess of the estimated number by 86. At the present time, scarlatina is the most fatal of the zymotic diseases, and 101 cases of it are recorded in the week. Eighty-three deaths were referred to typhus. Bronchitis was fatal in 204 cases, differing not widely in number from those of the two previous weeks. Pneumonia was fatal in 125 cases. Deaths from heart disease have been more numerous recently. Six deaths of nonagenarians were registered. A girl, aged six years, was suffocated by a bead passing into her windpipe.

LAW AND POLICE.—The Lord Chancellor has reversed the decision of Vice-Chancellor Wood, by which it was decided that a sum of £20,000 left by the Viscountess d'Alté to the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals for the purpose of erecting slaughter-houses was not contrary to the statute of Mortmain.

In the Court of Queen's Bench, last week, Mr. Blake, an attorney who had been suspended for two years, brought an action for libel against Stephens and others, publishers of a book entitled "The Law Relating to Attorneys," for stating by implication that he had been struck off the rolls. After hearing the case, the Lord Chief Justice said:—"This was a mistake which might have been dealt with in a different spirit by the plaintiff, by his asking before he brought this action for a correction of the objectionable passage. The defendants were as wrong as the plaintiff—if not more so—for instead of at once apologising and correcting the mistake in the best way they could, and cancelling the sheet, they had come into court feeling they had a "raw" they could work, and had instructed their counsel to do all he could to wound and humiliate the plaintiff by the stinging observations he had made. It was not a course for persons to pursue who were in the wrong, and their conduct should be taken into consideration by the jury in estimating the damages. It was not because a man had once in his life committed an improper act that he should be trampled in the dust." The jury returned a verdict for the plaintiff—damages, £100.

The long-postponed trial of Mr. Rumble, Inspector of Machinery at the Royal Dockyard, Sheerness, on a charge of enlisting men to serve in the Confederate ship Rappahannock, came on before the Court of Queen's Bench on Monday. At the close of the day's proceedings it was discovered that two material witnesses, officers in the Navy, were absent in the Mediterranean, so the case was postponed once more.

A young man named Carr, whose hand was severely bitten by a Russian blood-hound during a recent dog show at the Agricultural Hall, sued the company to which the hall belongs for damages in the Court of Common Pleas last week. The jury found a verdict for the plaintiff, with £100 damages.

The charges against Mr. Arthur Bootle Wilbraham for obtaining jewellery under false pretences have been withdrawn.

The Home Secretary has decided that Matthews, the cabman, is entitled to the whole of the reward for the apprehension and conviction of Müller. The sum is £200. Meanwhile, Matthews has been arrested by one of his creditors, and it is expected that claims for at least £560 will be lodged against him, so that the reward will speedily be swallowed up.

New editions, corrected to the latest period, of "Bradshaw's Handbooks to the three Presidencies of India" have recently been published. These three compact volumes form through route and descriptive guides, by road, river, and railway, to the Presidency of Bengal and the Western Provinces, to that of Madras and the Central Provinces, and to the Bombay Presidency and the North-West Provinces. They are copiously illustrated with maps and town plans, and are brimful of useful and curious information.

ECHOES OF THE WEEK.

THE pens which will this week create far more interest than those of superexcellent dramatists or novelists, whose works run into six editions in as many weeks, are those of the fat cattle in the Smithfield Club Cattle Show. Baker-street is deserted, but the Agricultural Hall, vast as it is, flows over with bucolics fresh from the country, as hearty as hounds before feeding-time and as ruddy as gamecocks in their countenances, though, by-the-way, not half so angular. What can be said new about a cattle show? Who is the interesting individual who reports the triumphs of Mr. John Overman over sheep and oxen? Who writes so learnedly about "unlevel lots" of "black faces, speckled faces, and white faces" of the old-fashioned mountain sort, and of sheep with shaggy fleeces of the hempy quality? Upon all these our readers, in company with the present writer, must content themselves with a certain indifferent ignorance—happy in knowing that the efforts of our farmers not only provide for us the best mutton and beef in the world, but also that our wool is getting every day better, that foreign farmers flock to our shores to outbid us for our prize breeds, and that, like Swift's great public benefactor, they not only succeed in making two blades of grass grow where one only grew before, but they cultivate at least four legs of mutton upon the space which served our ancestors for one.

Of course an unusual influx of visitors to the theatres has accompanied the cattle show. Drury Lane has been crammed, and other theatres have reaped an equal harvest, if we take into consideration the size of the houses. At Drury Lane, during each night this week, there has been an address spoken in aid of the Working Men's Shakspeare Movement, a movement, readers may be reminded, which will endeavour successfully to carry out that in which the national committee failed. The working men may have their committee formed of individuals who are infinitely more obscure than those world-renowned names which figured on the pink paper notices which the National sent out so liberally, but they evidently know how to go to work better than their more noted brethren, we will not call them rivals, in this friendly struggle.

As the great question of the disposal of our town sewage appears to be one of those upon which all authorities contradict each other, and every present writer knows infinitely less than the gentleman who will send a courteous letter contradicting all his statements to-morrow, would it not be well to hold a sewage congress at the Royal Society during the stay of our farming friends in town? Would not some useful facts, based upon actual experience, be elicited? As a class, the farmers resemble, in one particular only, Mr. Cobden. They do not take in the *Times*, and they therefore miss the instruction which, however confusedly, one may gather from the many admirable letters which are found in that journal. The second question which is angrily discussed is that of traffic, which increases more rapidly than our "great metropolis," to quote Mr. Grant's title, can well bear. Is Park-lane to be cut up? Are we to give to cabs and hack vehicles a slice of Hyde Park, with all the really beautiful gardens with which Mr. Cowper has adorned it? Where will the "devouring fiend" traffic stop? We have it under our feet, over our heads, on the earth, and, counting the electric telegraph, under the earth and in the sky! Will nothing save us? Every now and then, when we fancy matters are going on pretty well, and notably when Holborn or Oxford-street has been recently and admirably repaved, an obscure company, which may be a bubble or may turn out a success, invades our streets with an army of navvies, form effectual barricades with a few overturned wheelbarrows or a line with a whisp of straw, "put in the pick," as they call it, and tear up ruthlessly our excellent streets. Then it is that quiet squares and by-streets are invaded by unaccustomed omnibuses; and city gents, redolent of cigars and radiant with bright ties and neat collars, stare into first-floor windows or look down upon you as you are quietly breakfasting in your front parlour. Then it is that at night, when in your "beauty sleep," you are awakened by the roar of the demon van, driven by a boy with weak arms and a fustian jacket, and drawn by six thundering horses with iron hoofs as big as dinner-plates, or about five in the morning, too early even for an early riser, and too late for one to conscientiously slumber without a due remembrance of Dr. Watts's lyric, a mud-cart, evidently made of old drawing-room doors slung loosely together, like a cherry-clapper, flops down the street with a ghostly banging enough to terrify a saint. In the distance you hear it repeated, and you think piteously of the poor invalids it disturbs? Is there nothing to be done to remedy all this? Trade, of course, must be paramount in a huge city like our own; but cannot trade be carried on in a less noisy way?

On Saturday night twenty-five gentlemen, some on the press and others gathered from the different classes of society, witnessed an especial séance with especially provided tests of the Davenport Brothers. The head of these gentlemen, Mr. Edmund Yates, wrote an account of this meeting, from which it would appear that the spiritualists were not quite so successful with these sceptics as with a mixed company of spectators. The gentlemen retired puzzled but not satisfied, the conclusion of the chief guest being that in calling the brothers "sorry mountebanks" he did them great injustice. "I believe them to be," he continues, "the very cleverest conjurors whose performances I have ever attended." This judgment is arrived at, perhaps, after too perfunctory an inspection. In the *Morning Post*, Captain Richard Burton has deposed to some very startling deeds of these conjurors. Whilst suspending his belief, the great African traveller, who surely is sceptical enough on most points and who has seen most systems of Indian jugglery, deposes to hearing strange voices, feeling rough hands, seeing drops of fire from the ceiling, and beholding all those strange doings in the dark séance which have puzzled most of us. Mr. Howitt, in a recently-published letter, proclaims the ultimate triumph of spiritualism over the ignorant opposition of a ribald press, to the writers on which he calls out, "Go ahead, gentlemen, and in a very short time you will have pilloried yourselves amongst the opponents of vaccination, electricity, steam, and railroads to the amplest satisfaction of your very worst enemies."

The annual ball for the benefit of the Royal Dramatic College took place on Wednesday; and, judging from its success—which, by-the-way, always attends it—and that of its coadjutor, the Dramatic Fête at the Crystal Palace, the Royal Dramatic College bids fair to become one of the richest bodies in England. If the funds increase as much in proportion, and in a much shorter time than did those of Allen's Dulwich Retreat, let us hope they may be always purely administered. We can answer for our own days, and also, perhaps, for those of our sons, but we can hardly answer for those who succeed them. However, the rules of this charity are most stringently formed, the Shakspearean proverb of "safe bind, safe find—a proverb never stale in thrifty mind," being borne thoroughly in mind by the founders of this college. The dramatic school which is in connection with the college, and to which not only the children of actors, but also those of dramatic authors are admitted, still appeals to the public for funds to complete the benevolent intention of the founders.

In the various Christmas pantomimes, of course, the authors, pantomimists, painters, and machinists will surpass themselves this year. Do they not do so every year, in spite of the fact that we never have the old fun we used to have, and that our clowns are doubtlessly inferior to the clowns of past days. We have no one now to take the place of Tom Matthews, let alone that of Grimaldi; but our scenery is certainly splendid enough, and that at Drury-lane will be very beautiful. At Covent Garden also, the new company is making great efforts to produce something especially attractive. Nor are the smaller theatres a whit behind their larger competitors in the favour of the public. The great "Drame" at the Adelphi proves to be a decided success, in spite of the thrill of horror which some of its scenes cause. It is, perhaps, altogether much too thoroughly "French" for a continued success; for, if playgoers think a little, they may reckon that almost all the great "runs" have been gained by pieces in which English history or British character was predominant. Raw translation is really not required by the English; a perfect adaptation like that of "The Streets of London" should be at least always attempted.

The stone seat, bearing the inscription "Rest and be thankful," referred to in this column last week, is at the head of Glencroe, not of Glencoe, as was then misprinted. A correspondent, writing from Keswick, states that there is a "Rest and be thankful" also in the Lake district, on the way from Grasmere to Elterwater and the Langdales; and that he has seen the inscription elsewhere.

THE MAGAZINES.

EVERY reader of the *Cornhill* will turn first to Mr. Wilkie Collins's story, and few will be dissatisfied at the entertainment provided for them. The principal drawback arises from the very nature of the fiction, which, like "Margaret Denzil," is not one of those adapted for narration by instalments. An interval of nineteen years, supposed to elapse between the prologue and the point at which the narrative is resumed, renders the strange story more than ever perplexing and enigmatical; the memory requires to be frequently refreshed by reference to what has preceded, and readers who have no longer access to the last number will find themselves continually at fault. So far as developed, the story seems to bear a vague, shadowy resemblance to a history from real life—that of the unfortunate and eccentric poet, Alfred Hollingsworth. "Wives and Daughters" loses nothing of its charm in this number, the pictures of old-maid life are especially delightful, and strongly remind us of "Cranford." The other papers are above the usual average, and the most interesting, on all accounts, is the notice of Leech, which is accompanied by several illustrations, a reproduction of his last unfinished woodcut among them. M. Berryer's visit has called forth a highly interesting article on the French Bar, in which the leading distinctions between it and ours are ably pointed out. They seem to consist, firstly, in the centralised location of the English Bar, while French courts and practitioners are scattered all over the country; and, secondly, in the broad distinction which subsists in France between official and private practice. A non-official advocate never thinks of being made a judge, and the relation between the Bar and the Bench is consequently very different to what it is in England. This accounts for the notorious unfairness of a French Judge towards accused persons, whom a long course of employment under Government has taught him to regard as his natural enemies. "A Convict's Views on Penal Discipline" is an important paper, though the discontinuance of transportation to Western Australia will deprive it of much of its interest. Convict or not, the writer is evidently a man of superior education and ability. The article on the great Italian dramatist, Niccolini, is interesting, though the translations from him are almost necessarily inadequate.

There is nothing in *Macmillan* so good as Professor Masson's recollections of Edinburgh University, with his graphic descriptions of Chalmers as a lecturer and of that "Inutility personified," his colleague—"the clerical old gentleman with a great, squab, bald head, fat pinkish-white cheeks, portly and punctiliously-clean general appearance, and very fat calves neatly encased in black stockings, who professed to teach the Oriental languages." The paper is also very suggestive from the insight it gives into the working of the professional system of the Scotch Universities, so different from that obtaining in England, where the tutor has gradually usurped the professor's functions. Mr. Kingsley's chapters overflow with life and spirit, especially those devoted to the delineation of the colonial society he knows so well. "A Son of the Soil" is this month a little below the mark; we begin to find Lauderdale's eternal moralising somewhat tedious. Professor Maurice's letter on the pretensions of the Bishop of Cape Town will be widely read, and will carry the greatest weight; it is calm, dignified, and, had not so much party feeling been imported into the matter, we might have added convincing. Miss Mulock's lines on the loss of the Birkenhead are very good of their kind.

Blackwood's valuable series of papers on the Public Schools' Report is concluded with as much ability as it was commenced. We should be glad to see it reprinted. Both "Cornelius O'Dowd" and "Tony Butler" somehow fail to amuse this month, and the number would be dull, but for the American experiences of a cavalry officer, lately returned from a year's excursion in Secessia. He does not seem, indeed, to be endowed with any more ample portion of intellectual brilliancy than is strictly proper in a heavy dragoon; his description of the great Confederate overthrow at Gettysburg is tame indeed after Colonel Freemantle's; and, though he seems to have been on intimate terms with the Secessionist leaders, he seems unable to relate a single anecdote or convey the most unimportant trait of character. His simplicity is perfectly astounding, and however trustworthy his account of what passed under his eyes may be, it is clear that his inferences from it are not worth a Federal greenback or even a Confederate one. Still, the nature of his subject will secure him eager readers, who will be only too thankful for any information, however meagre and prejudiced. Though devoid of graphic power, he sometimes indicates the possession of humour, as where he observes, "When people here mean to speak of a native of Holland they call him an 'Amsterdam Dutchman,' but when they speak of one of German race generally they leave out the Amster." There is also a good story of a wounded Confederate soldier, who, finding he would have to lose his leg, immediately proceeded to barter the useless boot.

Fraser is chiefly interesting on account of two reviews, one of Victor Hugo's work on Shakspeare, the other of Kaye's history of the Indian mutiny. There is nothing remarkably original in either, but each is the production of a sensible and well-informed writer. The same may be said of the paper on Ireland; but it was hardly worth while to devote so much space to the enumeration of well-known facts and generally-accepted conclusions. Anything of the nature of original and statesman-like suggestion would have been valuable. "Gilbert Rugge" is continued very agreeably, and "A.K.H.B." has a contribution in his old style. "The Drama in Paris" is a rather interesting account of some recent pieces.

The dreaded period has at length arrived when the readers of the *Dublin University* must part from "Uncle Silas," which is concluded this month in as weird and melodramatic fashion as it began. It is certainly an unusually good specimen of a class with which we fear we must persist in reckoning it, notwithstanding Mr. Lefanu's earnest and good-tempered remonstrance at the conclusion. True the element of tragic mystery is a frequent and legitimate ingredient in novels to which no one would think of applying the epithet "sensational;" but with them it is only one element out of several. In "Uncle Silas" it is all in all. We dare say the author meant to "observe the same limitations of incidents and the same moral aims" as Sir Walter Scott; but we cannot admit that he has succeeded. Satiety is the sole limit to the horrific incidents of his tale; and he must be more ingenious than we who can deduce any other moral from it than the necessity of care in choosing a guardian for an orphan daughter. Nevertheless, the story is one of extraordinary power, and will be but poorly replaced by the intolerably coxcombical "Who is the Heir?" with its unmannerly personalities. There is nothing else noteworthy in the magazine except another amusing paper on Irish popular superstitions.

Temple Bar is remarkably good this month. Mr. Yates' story continues to increase in vigour and spirit, while it evidently hastens rapidly to its conclusion. We are glad to be informed that another story by Mr. Yates may shortly be expected. Miss Braddon's fiction is concluded in this number, with a sneer at penny romances, which reminds us of the apologue of the pot and the kettle, or the airs of the "tillocracy" towards the "tillocracy" in Jerrold's comedy. It must be pronounced, however, that her story has been a good one in the main, and in some respects superior to most of her former efforts. Her place, it appears, is to be occupied by Mr. W. G. Wills, whose "Wife's Evidence" was one of the best and most successful stories of last season. The first chapters of this gentleman's "David Chantrey" are occupied with the foundation of what promises to be a very interesting fiction, and to develop a happy vein of humour. With four serials in simultaneous course of publication (for "Paid in Full" is not completed) it may well be imagined that the magazine has not too much space for miscellaneous articles. All that there are are very agreeable reading; the best, a feeling and judicious tribute to the memory of Landor by one of the many young authors he encouraged and befriended. The magazine boasts this month three poems of unusual merit: "A City Flower" is really worthy of Praed.

The *St. James's* is full of emptiness; and the same might be said of the *New Monthly* but for the amusing paper on the Archbishop of Granada and the promising story, "Woodbury." There are no two periodicals more dissimilar in character than *London Society* and *Good Words*, but none conducted with more uniform ability, or of which it is possible to speak frequently in terms of commendation. Each is excellent this month. The *Churchman's Magazine*, the *Sunday Magazine*, and *Our Own Fireside* are also carefully compiled, and calculated to interest the various classes of readers they respectively address. In the *British Army and Navy Review* Mr. Serjeant Burke is giving a series of "Celebrated Trials connected with the Army and Navy."

This month's number contains the trial of the unfortunate and hardly-treated Admiral Byng.

Our Mutual Friend. By Charles Dickens. No. 8. The time has gone by when Mr. Dickens's exuberant imagination yielded gold for the asking; it now has to be wrought carefully, and many veins, promising at first, suddenly prove poor and unprofitable. This has been eminently the case for the last two parts of this fiction, where we have seen Mr. Dickens exhausting himself in the effort to extract amusement from conceptions whose original poverty became but the more painfully apparent the longer they were manipulated. The present number presents a gratifying improvement. Four distinct veins of narrative are followed for a little way, and each proves fertile, so far, in humour or pathos. The death of little Johnny is a beautiful example of the latter. There is much of the former in the interview of Venus and Wegg; and both combine in the pretty picture of Bella Wilfer, who bids fair to become a favourite with all readers. On the whole, the number is excellent.

SCIENTIFIC NEWS.

THE DISCOVERY OF FLINT IMPLEMENTS AND WEAPONS in great numbers near Maintenon, in the department of the Eure et Loire, has been reported to the Academy of Sciences at Paris, by M. Bourdran. A space more than a square kilometre, between the aqueduct of Louis XIV. and the railway, is literally covered with débris belonging to the "stone age," consisting of the heads of lances and javelins, knives, hatchets, &c., giving abundant evidence of the work of human hands, and of the actual existence of an establishment for the manufacture of these weapons, which are described as remarkable for their size and finish.

A METEOR, remarkable for its persistent luminous train, between 70 deg. and 80 deg. in length, was observed by M. Boissy, at Rodez, at 5.36, on the evening of Nov. 11. The moonlight—very brilliant—was eclipsed by the sudden appearance of this meteor, which traversed the heavens in a direction nearly from north to south, with immense velocity, passing through 70 deg. or 80 deg. in three or four seconds. The culminating point was about 25 deg. to the west of the zenith; but the luminous train was of longer continuance, and passed through several phases. At first it was straight, and linear, and of a dazzling white; soon it enlarged, but diminished in brilliancy; at the expiration of five minutes it remained as a reddish cloud, perfectly distinct, elongated in form, a little irregular, from 12 deg. to 15 deg. long, and 1 deg. or 2 deg. wide. The cloudy mass, which appeared to be formed of fine sparks drawn together, yet very distinct, in colour varying from a cherry to a dark red, seemed to descend very slowly, resembling the fall-sparks of fireworks. The same meteor was observed at Périgueux, where the train was of a red and blue colour; and also at Blaye. The foregoing details are taken from a letter from M. Boissy to M. Daubrée, read at a recent meeting of the Academy of Sciences at Paris, and inserted in their *Comptes Rendus*, vol lix., No. 20.

THE CHEMICAL ACTION OF LIGHT ON VEGETATION has been recently examined by M. F. Jodin. From his note, reported to the French Academy of Sciences, as presented in No. 21 of vol. 59 of the *Comptes Rendus*, we give the resumé of his researches. After commenting on the action of light on the green matter of plants, on essential oils, tannin, chlorophyl, xanthophyl, &c., he concludes by saying:—It is seen that the action of light on certain immediate vegetable principles, especially chlorophyl, corresponds with the chemical phenomena of nature inversely as these principles are subjected to the influence of life in the vegetable tissues or isolated from its influence. Life and light acting together on a vegetable organism manifest, chemically, their resulting action by the decomposition of carbonic acid. The vegetable becomes green, and chlorophyl is produced. If life or light be wanting either oxidation or colour fail.

FORMATION OF ICE IN THE SEA.—M. Edlund has contributed a memoir on this subject to *Poggendorff's Annalen* (1864, No. 3), of which we give a few notes:—1. The maximum of the density of sea water is below the freezing point. 2. It can be cooled several degrees below the freezing point, and yet be in a state of equilibrium less unstable than pure water cooled down to below zero. A moderate agitation is not sufficient to congeal it; there must be brisk agitation and contact with ice already formed. From these two properties results the possibility of a distribution of temperatures, so that the lower strata of the sea may be much colder than the superficial strata; and hence, when under the influence of prolonged cooling, an accidental agitation may produce ice at the bottom of the sea. The ice thus formed may be analogous to the ice which is formed in water frozen below zero—i.e., constitute a kind of liquid mass, containing solid icy needles. After attaining the surface this liquid mass may retain its character for some time in spite of the motion of the waves, which may not sensibly change the relative position of the contiguous molecules; but under the influence of another movement, for example, near the coast, the mass may at last assume a solid form. M. Edlund confirms his views on the subject by statements obtained from the inhabitants of the coasts of Sweden, Norway, and the isles in the Baltic.

The municipal elections just over in Prussia have all resulted in the success of the Liberal candidates.

The enormous number of 291,597,240 eggs were imported into this country in the first ten months of the present year.

The railway between Stockholm and Malmoe, a town at the south of the Swedish peninsula, on the Sound, nearly apposite Copenhagen, has just been opened. The capital of Sweden is, in consequence, at a distance of only twenty hours from the Continent.

According to intelligence received at Paris, the whole of Afghanistan is in a state of insurrection. A battle had taken place between the Russians and the Khan of Kokan, which had resulted in a loss of 6000 men by the latter Prince.

A priest of Noto, in Sicily, named Giardono, has been arrested at Naples on a charge of having, in 1860, stabbed a monk to death at the moment he was descending from the altar, after saying mass. The prisoner has been perfectly identified.

It is stated that more than a hundred vagrant children are every month rescued from the streets of New York and sent to the west, where the farmers are glad to receive them. This is done by an association, styled the Children's Aid Society. The whole expense does not average more than 15 dols. for each child.

A warrant of her Majesty in Council appeared in the *Gazette* of yesterday week revising the provisions with a view to the more regular and efficient administration of justice and the better maintenance of order among all classes of her Majesty's subjects and of persons enjoying her Majesty's protection or resorting to the dominions of the Sublime Ottoman Porte.

Signor Righetti, the discoverer of the bronze colossal statue of Hercules, has cut short the difficulty of fixing the price of his treasure by presenting it to Pio Nono. It will be restored and repaired at the Pope's expense, and will form the point of central attraction in the Belvedere octagon at the Vatican.

During November seventeen ships, with 4251 passengers, sailed from Liverpool for the United States; one ship for Queensland, with 371 passengers; and three ships for Victoria, with 917 passengers. These vessels were under the Act, the total number of ships being twenty-one and passengers 5539. The vessels not under the Act comprised five ships for the United States, with 248 passengers; one for New South Wales, with 28 passengers; one for Victoria, with 44 passengers; and for other ports six ships, with 94 passengers: making a total of thirteen ships and 548 passengers not under the Act, and a grand total of ships under and not under the Act of thirty-four, and passengers 6053.

The engraving of All Saints' Church, Windsor, in our last week's Paper, was made from a drawing which the architect, Mr. Arthur W. Blomfield, had the honour of submitting to her Royal Highness the Princess of Prussia, on the occasion of her laying the first stone of this building a twelvemonth ago. The north aisle, as now constructed, is only temporary, serving as a passage to the seats in the nave. When finished according to Mr. Blomfield's design, the church will comprise a north aisle and a transeptal chapel north of the chancel, with two vestries eastward; while the exterior will display a large western porch and a detached campanile. The sum of £2400 is required to carry out the proposed additions, by which nearly 400 sittings will be gained.

The Emigration Commissioners dispatched during the last month two emigrant-ships to Adelaide, South Australia—namely, the Matilda Atheling, which sailed from Plymouth on the 23rd (having been detained a week by the weather), with 290 emigrants; and the Queen Bee, which also sailed from Plymouth, on the 29th, with 315 emigrants.——The New Zealand Emigration Board dispatched two ships to Auckland—namely, the Ganges, from Cork, on the 4th, with 386½ statute adults, principally married couples and their families; and the Bombay, which left Gravesend on the 25th, with 380 emigrants.——The Emigration Commissioners have chartered the Clara to sail about the 30th of January next, with emigrants from Plymouth to Adelaide, South Australia; and the New Zealand Board have chartered the Dauntless to sail from Dublin about the 18th inst., with emigrants to Auckland. Free passages to Auckland and Queensland continue to be granted to married couples and domestic servants, and to Victoria and South Australia to domestic servants only.——Mr. Jordan, Agent-General of Emigration for Queensland, has just returned from Brisbane. Among the new regulations adopted during his visit is an authority to advance £6 in the colony to every immigrant paying his own passage. The security to the Government will be the deposit of his £30 land order, which is now given without any limitation as to age, and which can be redeemed within two years on payment of £1 for interest and expenses.

THE WEATHER.

RESULTS OF METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS AT THE KEW OBSERVATORY OF THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION.

Lat. 51° 28′ 6″ N.; Long. 0° 18′ 47″ W.; Height above Sea, 34 feet.

DAY.	Daily Means of: Barometer Corrected.	Temperature of the Air.	Dew Point.	Relative Humidity.	Amount of Cloud.	Thermometer: Minimum, read at 10 A.M.	Maximum, read at 10 A.M.	Wind: General Direction.	Movement in 24 hours.	Rain in 24 hours, read at 10 A.M.
	Inches.	°	°	°	0-10	°	°		Miles.	Inches
Nov. 30	30·123	45·8	38·3	·77	10	36·8	48·5	SSW. S.	493	·007
Dec. 1	30·168	41·8	39·3	·92	0	31·3	47·3	SW. SSW.	108	·254
2	30·391	35·1	33·8	·95	6	26·5	47·2	S.	58	·000
3	30·334	47·4	44·7	·91	10	33·7	49·6	S. SSW.	434	·010
4	..	..	..	..	..	44·0	48·8	..	379	·008
5	30·046	48·2	36·7	·67	2	44·5	52·8	SW. S.	302	·000
6	30·003	47·3	45·6	·94	6	42·9	51·2	SW. W.	130	·000

The following are the readings of the meteorological instruments for the above days, in order, at half-past nine a.m.:—

Barometer (in inches) corrected	30·217	30·144	30·395	30·348	30·306	30·120	29·994
Temperature of Air	46·3°	34·1°	27·8°	44·1°	46·9°	47·8°	47·6°
Temperature of Evaporation	42·3°	37·7°	27·5°	46·7°	44·8°	44·0°	47·4°
Direction of Wind	SSW.	SW.	CALM.	S.	SW.	SW.	SW.

A story that General Hooker has been left immensely rich by the death of a Mexican wife is thus disposed of by the San Francisco *Alta*:—"1, General Hooker's wife was not rich when he married her, nor at any other time; 2, General Hooker's wife was not a Mexican; 3, General Hooker's wife is not dead; 4, General Hooker never had a wife; 5, General Hooker is not a General, never was, and never will be."

The *Missouri Democrat* states that Mrs. Francis L. Clayton, now in Maine, enlisted in the army at St. Paul, Minnesota, with her husband, in 1861, and fought by his side till he was killed in the battle of Stone River. She was in eighteen battles—once a prisoner; three times wounded—in hand, hip, and knee; and at her husband's death made known her sex to her General, and was discharged.

The *New York Times* states that persons of both sexes have been guilty of clipping pieces from the window-curtains, sofa, lounge, and chair covers of the White House, at Washington. They even go so far as to pull the papering from the walls, and even to steal heavy brackets from the windows and tassels from the curtains. The curtains in the East and Green Rooms are very badly cut up, and nineteen out of twenty brackets are stolen from the windows of the East Room alone. This practice is indulged in with a view to secure relics of visits to the President's mansion, and ladies and gentlemen of high standing have been detected in it. Three ladies, whose names are not made known, have been caught in the act within a few days, one of whom fainted when discovered. The annoyance has grown so great that proper measures have been taken to prevent a repetition of the offences.

A meeting of the Royal National Life-boat Institution was held on Thursday week, at its house, John-street, Adelphi. The committee expressed their deep sympathy for the loss of life during the fearful shipwrecks off Tynemouth, last week, and particularly in reference to the loss of two gallant men, who perished by jumping out of the Tynemouth life-boat, belonging to the institution. It appeared that the performance of the life-boat on that occasion elicited the admiration of the oldest seamen in the place. The boat was in the act of rescuing the crew of the schooner when the expression used by the coxswain, "Come, lads, jump on board!" was misunderstood by some of the life-boat crew, four of whom thereupon jumped on board the schooner, believing the life-boat was going to pieces. This circumstance so completely deprived the remainder of the crew of their presence of mind that they lost control over the boat, and, a heavy sea striking her at the same moment against the ship, all her oars, with the exception of two, were broken, and her side stove in. Nine of the men, however, stuck to the boat, and, with the two oars and the help of another life-boat, succeeded in reaching the harbour in safety. The two men who perished from the life-boat have left two widows and seven orphans. The institution voted £100 in aid of a local subscription being made in their behalf. The institution had also paid the crew of the life-boat £26 for their gallant exertions. The silver medal of the institution, and a copy of its vote on parchment, were presented to Mr. Lawrence Byrne, chief officer of the Coastguard at Tynemouth, for his exertions in assisting to save, by means of the rocket apparatus, some of the crew and passengers of the Stanley. The institution had at once sent down to Tynemouth on Monday last a new life-boat to replace the disabled one. Rewards amounting to £130 were voted to the crews of some of the life-boats of the institution, and to those of shore-boats, for their exertions during the fearful gales of the past month in rendering the following valuable services to shipwrecked crews:—The French Chassemarie, of Nantes, six men saved; schooner Sarah, of Waterford, six; a derelict vessel off Lossiemouth, six; French schooner Fernand, of St. Malo, five; schooner Heroine, of Milford, five; sloop Active, of Carnarvon, three; ship Far West, of Newport (Monmouth), assisted to save vessel and crew of twenty-two men; barque Louis XIV., of Dunkirk, fifteen; brig John, of Hartlepool, six; barque Sea Serpent, of South Shields, three; schooner David and John, of Montrose, four; Danish galiot Triton, one; Norwegian brig Oscar, nine; brig Chimera, of Liverpool, one; Newbiggin and Berwick fishing-boats and their crews, thirty-two;—making a total of 124 lives saved by the life-boats of the institution and shore-boats. Rewards amounting to £115 4s. were granted to the crews of other life-boats of the institution for their services in going off in reply to signals of distress from vessels during the storms of the past month. The silver medal of the institution was presented to Mr. J. B. Bulkeley, coxswain of the Teignmouth new life-boat of the society, for his long services in assisting in the life-boat and by other means to save a large number of shipwrecked persons. Payments amounting to upwards of £2000 were ordered to be made on various life-boat establishments; and £1000 of the funded capital of the institution was ordered to be sold to assist in meeting these heavy payments. The Comptroller-General of the Coastguard submitted to the National Life-boat Institution a list of about fifty places where it was desirable to place a small, handy class of life-boat in the absence of life-boats belonging to the institution. The committee decided to give this important question their best consideration. The cost of new life-boats for Alnmouth, Northumberland, and Ardmore, Ireland, had been presented to the institution by benevolent persons. The society had also sent new life-boats during the past month to Hornsea, Yorkshire; Sutton, Lincolnshire; and Piel, Lancashire. New life-boats on their way to their stations had been exhibited during the past week at Manchester, Birmingham, Leeds, and Bradford, and had excited the greatest interest in these inland towns.

MONETARY TRANSACTIONS OF THE WEEK.

(From our City Correspondent.)

THE withdrawal of about £300,000 in gold from the Bank of England, chiefly for shipment to Egypt on account of the new loan, and the increased rates at which bills have been purchased on India, have produced fluctuating markets for National Stocks. The operations have been on a fair average scale; but at one time there was rather a heavy decline in the quotations. It has since been recovered, as the advices from the Continent show an increase in the supplies of money for commercial purposes, and as the value of capital abroad has a drooping tendency.

The demand for accommodation at the Bank of England has fallen off; whilst in the open market it has been far from active. However, the lowest rates for the best paper are as follow:—

Thirty days' bills	6¾	per cent.	Four months' bills	7¼	per cent.
Sixty days' bills	6¾	,,	Six months' bills	9¼	,,
Three months' bills	7	,,			

The Bank of Prussia has reduced its rate for money to 6 per cent. On other parts of the Continent no change of importance has taken place in the quotations. The rates in the leading cities are:—

	Bank rate per cent.	Open market per cent.		Bank rate per cent.	Open market per cent.
Paris	5	5	Turin	7	7
Vienna	6	6	Brussels	6	5½
Berlin	6	6	Madrid	9	9
Frankfort	5½	5½	Hamburg	—	4½
Amsterdam ..	6½	6½	St. Petersburg ..	6½	8

The Council for India have disposed of £300,000 in bills. The applications within the limits amounted to £2,230,000. The rates given were 1½ per cent higher on Calcutta, and 2 per cent higher on Bombay, than at the previous sale. Apparently, therefore, very large remittances have yet to be made to the East.

About £400,000 in bullion has arrived from various quarters, but chiefly from New York. Very little gold has been disposed of to the Bank. Bar silver has sold at 61⅝d. ⅞ per ounce, with an active market.

On Monday Consols, for Money, were done at 89⅞ 90; Ditto, for the 10th of January, 89⅞ ⅛; Reduced and New Three per Cents, 88½ ¾; India Bonds, par to 5s. prem.; Exchequer Bills, 6s. dis. to par; Bank Stock was 237 to 239; India Stock, 217 to 219; India Five per Cents sold at 103¼ ½ ex div. Prices were drooping on Tuesday, with a heavy market:—Consols, for Transfer, left off at 89 to ⅛; Ditto, for Time, 89¼ ⅛; Bank Stock, 237 to 239; Reduced and New Three per Cents, 88¾ ⅞; India Stock, 217 to 220; Ditto, New, 102¾; Red Sea Annuities, 20⅛; India Bonds, par to 5s. prem.; Exchequer Bills, 6s. to 1s. dis. On Wednesday the market was firm, and Consols, for Money, touched 89¼ ⅛; Bank Stock closed at 237 to 239; Reduced and New Three per Cents, 88½ ⅝; India Stock, 217 to 219; India Five per Cents, 102⅞ to 103¼; Ditto, Debentures, 98; Ditto, Bonds, par to 5s. pm.; Exchequer Bills, 7s. dis.; New Two-and-a-Half per Cents, 71¼ ex div. On Thursday Consols, for Money, realised 89¼ ⅛; for Account, 89⅞ ⅞; Reduced Three per Cents, 88⅝ ¾ ⅞; New Three per Cents, 88⅝ ¾ ⅞; New Two-and-a-Half per Cents, 72; Bank Stock, 237; India Stock, 218, 221; Ditto, Five per Cents, 103¼ 103; Ditto Bonds, 5s. prem.; and Exchequer Bills, 6s. to 1s. dis.

In the market for Foreign Securities only a moderate business has been transacted. At one period prices showed considerable weakness; but they have since improved, and the quotations are now, in most instances, without material change from last week. The Confederate Loan has marked 57 to 59; the scrip of the new Egyptian Loan, ½ to ⅛ prem.; and of the Danubian Loan, ½ dis. to par. Brazilian Five per Cents have been done at 98½; Ditto Four-and-a-Half per Cents, 88¾; Egyptian Seven per Cents, 95½; Greek, 22½; Mexican Three per Cents, 29¾; Ditto, 1864, 27½; New Granada, 12½; Portuguese Three per Cents, 47¾; Russian Old Five per Cents, 88½; Ditto, 1862, 87; Ditto Three per Cents, 52¾; Spanish Three per Cents, 48¾; Ditto, Deferred, 41¼; Ditto, Passive, 31¼; Ditto, Certificates, 14½; Turkish Old Six per Cents, 88½; Ditto, 1858, 71; Ditto, 1862, 71½; Venezuela Six per Cents, 51½; and Italian Five per Cents, 64⅞.

The market for Joint-stock Bank Shares has ruled inactive. Alliance have sold at 39; Bank of London, 136½; British North American, 49; Chartered Mercantile of India, London and China, 61; Consolidated, 11; English, Scottish, and Australian Chartered, 21; Hindustan, China, and Japan, 30½; Imperial, 34½; Imperial Ottoman, 16⅞; London, Buenos Ayres, and River Plate, 22; London Joint-stock, 49½; Ditto, New, 23⅞; London and South African, 22; London and South-Western, 22; London and Westminster, 97¾; National Provincial of England, 149; Ditto, New, 49; Provincial, 3½; South Australia, 37; Union of Australia, 55½; and Union of London, 56.

Colonial Government Securities have been in fair demand:—Canada Six per Cents have realised 99½; Ditto Five per Cents, 88½; Ceylon Six per Cents, 103½; Mauritius Six per Cents, 106½; New Zealand Five per Cents, 90; Nova Scotia Six per Cents, 199½; New Brunswick Six per Cents, 100; and Victoria Six per Cents, 102½.

The Miscellaneous Market has ruled inactive:—Anglo-Mexican Mint, 18½; Credit Foncier and Mobilier of England, 8½; Ditto, 5½; Credit Foncier of Mauritius, 5½; East India Irrigation and Canal, 6½; English and Australian Copper, 1⅝; General Credit, 7; Hudson's Bay, 16½; International Financial, 7½; Joint-stock Discount, 5½; London Financial, 81½; Ocean Marine Insurance, 26½; Ottoman Gas, 6½; Peninsular and Oriental Steam, 83; Ditto, New, 49.

The transactions in railway shares have been somewhat restricted. On the whole, however, prices have been well supported. Annexed are Thursday's official closing quotations:—

Ordinary Shares and Stocks.—Edinburgh and Glasgow, 90; Great Eastern, 47⅞; Great Northern, 131½; Great Western, 78½; Ditto, West Midland—Oxford, 57½; London and Blackwall, 83; London and Brighton, 105½; London and North-Western, 119½ ex New; London and South-Western, 97½; Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire, 65½; Metropolitan, 121½; Ditto, New, 3½; Midland, 135½; North-Eastern—Berwick, 113½; North Eastern—Stockton and Darlington, 1855 and 1858, 32½; North Staffordshire, 79½; South Devon, 41½; South-Eastern, 85½; Vale of Neath, 108.

British Possessions.—Bombay, Baroda, and Central India, 103; Eastern Bengal, 102½; East Indian, 104½; Great Indian Peninsula, 104; Ditto, New, 2⅞; Great Western of Canada, 9; Ditto, New, 6½; Madras Four-and-Three-Quarter per Cent, 95; Scinde, 102½; Punjaub, 103½.

Foreign.—Great Luxembourg, 11⅞; Namur and Liège, Six per Cent Preference, 99½; Sambre and Meuse, 7; San Paulo, 11; South Austrian and Lombardo-Venetian, 20½.

The return of the Bank of England for the week ending Dec. 7 shows the following results when compared with the preceding statement:—

A decrease of circulation of	£212,939	A decrease of bullion of	149,339
An increase of public deposits of ..	167,312	An increase of rest of	27,733
A decrease of other deposits of	695,397	An increase of reserve of	31,990
A decrease of securities of	474,031		

The total circulation is £20,118,116. Public deposits amount to £6,463,544; and private deposits to £12,699,764. Securities are £28,726,674; and the stock of bullion is £13,440,941.

THE MARKETS.

CORN EXCHANGE, Dec. 5.—The supply of English wheat here to-day was very moderate, yet the demand for all kinds was very inactive, at last week's currency. The sale for foreign wheat was heavy, on former terms. Fine barley moved off steadily, at full quotations; but grinding and distilling sorts were a slow inquiry. Malt ruled steady in price. Oats were the turn dearer, with a good consumptive demand. There was less doing in beans and peas. Prices, however, were supported. Flour met a dull inquiry, on former terms.

Dec. 7.—Fine wheat, barley, and oats were in fair request, at very full prices. In all other kinds of produce only a limited business was passing, at Monday's currency.

English.—Wheat, Essex and Kent, red, 35s. to 39s.; ditto, white, 32s. to 45s.; Norfolk and Suffolk, red, 34s. to 38s.; rye, 33s. to 35s.; grinding barley, 23s. to 25s.; distilling ditto, 24s. to 27s.; malting ditto, 29s. to 35s.; Lincoln and Norfolk malt, 60s. to 63s.; brown ditto, 50s. to 52s.; Kingston and Ware, 59s. to 62s.; Chevalier, 61s. to 63s.; Yorkshire and Lincolnshire feed oats, 19s. to 22s.; potato ditto, 22s. to 27s.; Youghal and Cork, black, 18s. to 22s.; ditto, white, 19s. to 23s.; tick beans, 34s. to 37s.; grey peas, 33s. to 36s.; maple, 36s. to 38s.; white, 35s. to 38s.; boilers, 35s. to 38s. per quarter. Town-made flour, 36s. to 40s.; seconds, 32s. to 35s.; country marks, 29s. to 31s. per 280 lb.; French, 31s. to 33s. per sack; American, 19s. to 26s. per barrel.

Arrivals this Week.—English: Wheat, 1330; barley, 1860; malt, 970; flour, 960. Foreign: Wheat, 4450; barley, 330; oats, 14,160; flour, 5290 barrels.

Seeds.—Linseed and rapeseed are less active, and the quotations are barely supported. Cakes are firm, and quite as dear as last week. Agricultural seeds are a slow sale.

Linseed, English, sowing, 60s. to 68s.; Calcutta, 59s. to 60s.; hempseed, 42s. to 45s. per quarter; coriander, 20s. to 24s. per cwt.; brown mustard seed, 11s. to 13s.; white ditto, 9s. to 10s.; tares, 8s. 6d. to 9s. 6d. per bushel; English rapeseed, 70s. to 76s. per quarter. Linseed cakes, English, £10 to £11 5s.; ditto, foreign, £9 10s. to £11 5s.; rape cakes, £5 10s. to £6 5s. per ton; canary, 48s. to 51s. per quarter; red clover seed, 46s. to 74s.; white ditto, 46s. to 75s. per cwt.

Bread.—The prices of wheaten bread in the metropolis are from 6½d. to 7d.; of household ditto, 5d. to 6d. per 4 lb. loaf.

Imperial Weekly Averages.—Wheat, 38s. 5d.; barley, 29s. 2d.; oats, 20s. 3d.; rye, 26s. 8d.; beans, 37s. 10d.; peas, 35s. 5d.

The Six Weeks' Averages.—Wheat, 38s. 9d.; barley, 29s. 9d.; oats, 20s. 0d.; rye, 31s. 8d.; beans, 37s. 10d.; peas, 35s. 2d.

English Grain Sold Last Week.—Wheat, 101,757; barley, 117,749; oats, 10,569; rye, 136; beans, 3593; peas, 1962 quarters.

Tea.—The market, generally, is in a very inactive state, and prices have given way 1d. to 1½d. per lb.

Sugar.—Raw qualities move off slowly, and the quotations are a shade lower than last week. The stock amounts to 112,157 tons, against 76,617 tons last year. Refined goods move off slowly, at 42s. 6d. per cwt. for common brown lumps.

Coffee.—The demand has fallen off, and prices have declined 6d. to 1s. per cwt. Stock, 11,024 tons, against 10,108 tons in 1863.

Rice.—Only a limited business is doing, yet the quotations are supported. Stock, 35,300 tons, against 44,113 tons last year.

Provisions.—Irish butter is a dull inquiry, at about last week's quotations. Foreign qualities, however, command full prices. Bacon is offering on lower terms. The best Waterford, on board, is selling at 58s. per cwt. Other provisions are a slow inquiry.

Tallow.—P.Y.C., on the spot, is dull, at 40s. 9d. per cwt. Stock, 62,154 casks, against 70,764 casks last year. Rough fat, 2s. 1d. per 8 lb.

Oils.—Linseed oil is selling at £33 10s.; rape, £43 to £47; olive, £49 10s. to £58; and cocoanut, £36 10s. to £38. French turpentine, 62s. 6d. to 63s. per cwt.

Spirits.—Rum supports late rates; but the demand for it is inactive. Brandy and grain spirits rule about stationary.

Hay and Straw.—Meadow hay, £4 to £5 10s.; clover, £5 to £6 6s.; and straw, £1 to £1 10s. per load.

Coals.—Best house coals, 22s. to 23s.; seconds, 21s. to 22s.; and Hartley's, 19s. to 20s. per ton.

Hops.—There is a steady sale for new supplies, at full quotations. In other kinds very little is doing. The top quotation is 200s. per cwt.

Wool.—The public sales are progressing steadily. Privately, very little is doing.

Potatoes.—The supplies are moderate and the trade is steady, at from 80s. to 120s. per ton.

Metropolitan Cattle Market (Thursday, Dec. 8).—There was a fair average supply of beasts on sale in our market to-day, in somewhat improved condition. For all breeds the demand was far from active; nevertheless, Monday's prices were supported. The best Scots sold at 5s. 6d. per 8 lb. The show of sheep was only moderate. Downs and halfbreds commanded full currencies. Otherwise the mutton trade was heavy, at late rates. The top figure was 5s. 10d. per 8 lb. Calves maintained their previous value—viz., from 4s. 4d. to 5s. 4d. per 8 lb.; but the inquiry for them was inactive. Pigs were steady; but milch cows sold heavily, at late rates.

Per 8 lb. to sink the offal:—Coarse and inferior beasts, 3s. 6d. to 4s. 2d.; second quality ditto, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 10d.; prime large oxen, 5s. 0d. to 5s. 2d.; prime Scots, &c., 5s. 4d. to 5s. 6d.; coarse and inferior sheep, 3s. 10d. to 4s. 6d.; second quality ditto, 4s. 8d. to 5s. 0d.; prime coarse-woolled sheep, 5s. 2d. to 5s. 6d.; prime Southdown ditto, 5s. 8d. to 5s. 10d.; large coarse calves, 4s. 4d. to 4s. 10d.; prime small ditto, 5s. 0d. to 5s. 4d.; large hogs, 3s. 6d. to 4s. 4d.; neat small porkers, 4s. 6d. to 4s. 10d.; suckling calves, 17s. to 21s.; and quarter-old store pigs, 20s. to 26s. each. Total supply: Beasts, 1620; cows, 130; sheep, 6230; calves, 212; pigs, 380. Foreign: Beasts, 472; sheep, 1440; calves, 200.

Newgate and Leadenhall.—Beef, from 3s. 0d. to 4s. 8d.; mutton, 3s. 8d. to 5s. 0d.; veal, 4s. 2d. to 4s. 10d.; pork, 3s. 4d. to 5s. 0d. per 8 lb. by the carcass.

ROBERT HERBERT.

THE LONDON GAZETTE.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 6.

BANKRUPTCIES ANNULLED.

W. BARRETT, Sevenoaks, New Brompton, and Chatham, Kent, coal merchant.—A. W. TRENTER, Railway-place, Fenchurch-street, printer.—C. VANT, Mile-end-road, tailor.—J. P. GRAIN, Conduit-street, Bond-street, wine merchant.—C. J. ABLITT, Great Yarmouth, victualler.—J. H. BRACHER, Tisbury, Wilts, farm bailiff.

BANKRUPTS.

F. RICHARDSON, Benenden, miller.—M. POUND, Leather-lane, chemist.—A. H. K. SMITH, Vinegar-yard, licensed vicualler.—G. FEAVERYEAR, Islington, butcher.—H. G. BACON, Camberwell, publican.—J. E. BARNETT and G. DYSON, City, woollen warehousemen.—A. J. COLLARD, near Margate, farmer.—J. E. LANCASTER, St. Paul's-street, New North-road, milliner.—B. BOLDING, Elizabeth-street, looking-glass-maker.—J. CHAMBERS, Biggleswade, licensed victualler.—J. T. SHAYLER, Clerkenwell, furrier.—G. TRIGGS, Walworth, boot manufacturer.—G. CORDER, Stratford, whitesmith.—J. K. LORD, Camberwell, naturalist.—R. NICHOLLS, Harefield, baker.—W. ALPE, Berwick-street, jobmaster.—S. J. G. OLDFIELD, Camden Town, fishmonger.—W. WHEELER, Cambridge-place, tailor.—A. COTCHING, Leighton Buzzard, maltster.—C. WORTH, Forest-hill, butcher.—T. HARDIMAN, De Beauvoir Town, plumber.—U. TAYLOR, Pencomb, farmer.—D. HULME, Marchington, farmer.—E. WESTERBY, Leicester, hosier.—W. REYNOLDS, Gloucester, ironmonger.—J. EWART, Leeds, surgeon.—R. CULPIN, Cleckheaton, woollen manufacturer.—T. WILLIAMS, Wrexham, brick manufacturer.—W. H. HAND, Liverpool, attorney.—J. and R. POTTER, Liverpool, builders.—W. PYKE, Swansea, gardener.—M. BRENNAND and R. WHITAKER, jun., Rochdale, flannel manufacturers.—M. W. DEACON, Manchester, linen merchant.—C. SIDDALL, Oldham, provision-dealer.—S. DEAKIN, Birmingham, goldbeater.—B. CHALMERS, Birmingham, stamper.—J. BIDDLECOMBE, Newport, Hants, bootmaker.—R. BLADES, Pontefract, smith.—H. HOPWOOD, Oldham, cotton-waste dealer.—T. ROBINSON, Leigh, innkeeper.—M. G. PRICE, Bratton, farmer.—D. COCKBURN, Newcastle-on-Tyne, carver and gilder.—G. JOHNSON, Clay Cross, grocer.—A. WHITNEY, Olney, commission agent.—W. FENTON, Cambridge, bootmaker.—J. HALL, Bury, stonemason.—S. RAY, Stoke-on-Trent, potter.—N. RAMSDEN, Bristol, oil manufacturer.—T. CHESTER, St. Leonards-on-Sea, baker.—E. SHERRATT, Burslem, clothier.—J. BAYLIS, Chester, carver.—W. SMITH, Leominster, baker.—H. HARVEY, Hentland, butcher.—J. REES, Bayswater, house decorator.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

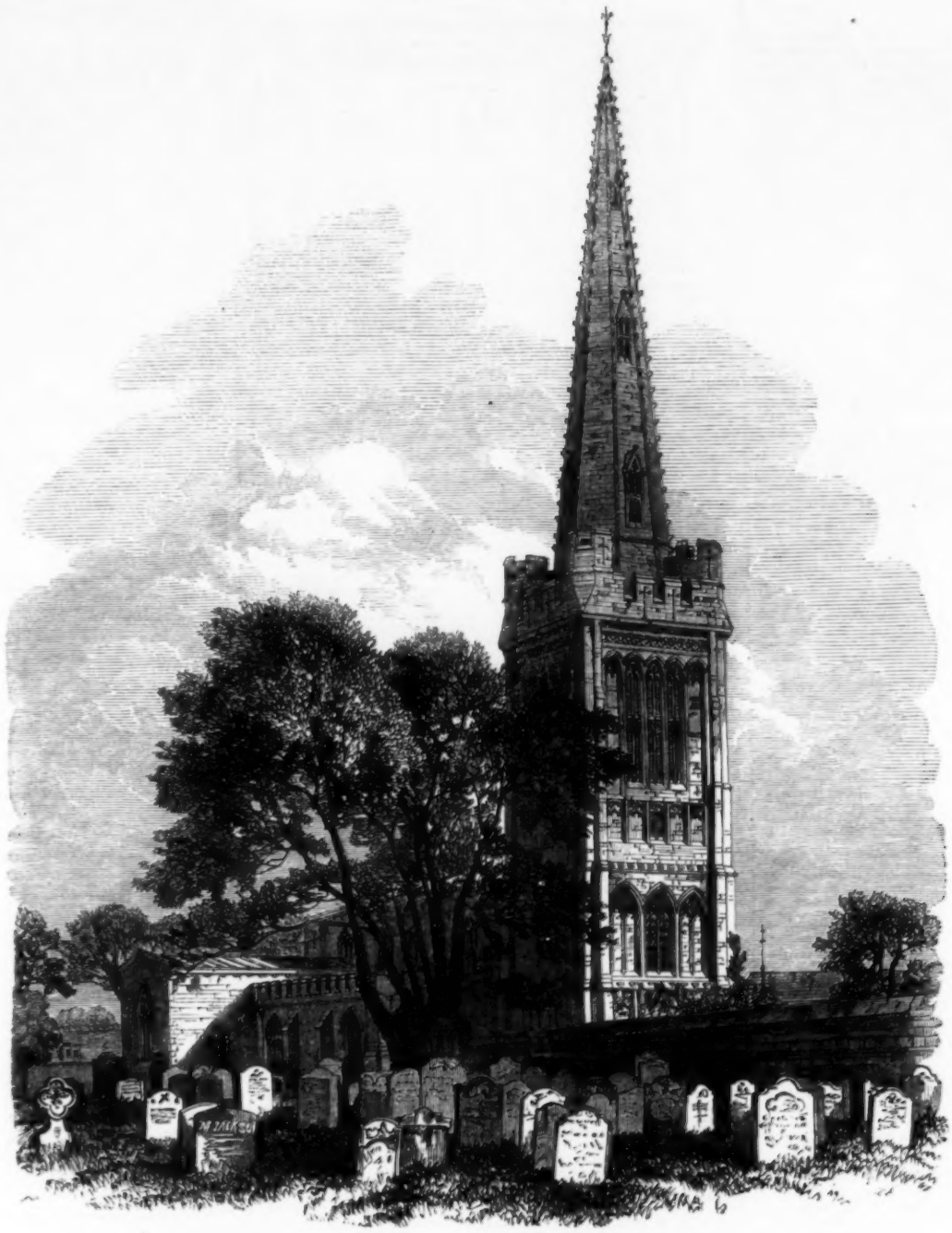
J. M'GHIE, Kilmalcolm, farmer.—A. CURRIE, Glasgow, house-furnisher.—J. T. FRASER, Edinburgh, coalmaster.—J., J. W. B., and M. MILLAR, Glencorse, Edinburgh, farmers.—W. WILSON, Stirling, bootmaker.

NEW FREE SCHOOL AT ABERDEEN.

OUR Engraving represents the school-house which has recently been erected in Holburn-street, Aberdeen, in accordance with the will of the late Mr. James Ross, of Cuparstown, who left a large sum of money for the purpose, and also for its endowment. The trustees acquired a commodious site in the centre of a populous district at a cost of about £450; and the cost of the building will amount to about £2500. The centre building is entirely devoted to a school-room, made to accommodate upwards of 300 scholars of both sexes, and is so constructed that it may, when required, be divided into two rooms. It is 62 ft. long by 28 ft. wide, and 36 ft. high to the apex of the roof. The main timbers of the roof form a Gothic arch, the space between each being plastered on the rafters. On each side of the school-room there are class-rooms for the boys and girls respectively, 28 ft. 6 in. and 14 ft. high: communicating with these are the master's and mistress's rooms. At the entrances, on each side, are passages to the playing-grounds, at the back of the building. In the tower are rooms for the keeper of the school, a clock and bell chamber in the roof, and a furnace-room and coal-cellar in the basement. The school-room and class-rooms are heated with Perkins's hot-water pipes. The whole of the walls and other masonwork are of blue Aberdeenshire granite. The architect was Mr. J. Russell Mackenzie, Aberdeen.

REOPENING OF OUNDLE CHURCH, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

The parish church of St. Peter, at Oundle, Northamptonshire, was reopened on the 23rd ult., after undergoing some extensive restorations, executed by Mr. R. Hall, of Nottingham, under the direction of Mr. Gilbert Scott. This church being in a very dilapidated state, it was, some time ago, found necessary to take steps to provide for its repair; but it was not until after two or three ineffectual attempts that the Vicar, the Rev. J. Nussey, was enabled to have the work commenced, which is now successfully performed. The interior consists of a nave, with aisles and transepts, and a chancel, with north and south chapels. The exterior has a lofty embattled tower, with decorated and pierced spire, together about 200 ft. in height. The restoration has been most complete. The unsightly galleries have been removed, also the old-fashioned high-backed pews; and in their place are open seats of carved oak. The western arch was formerly blocked up by some boarding. This has now been removed, and the effect is very striking, and adds much to the beauty of the church. The windows, which are in the Early English or Perpendicular style and exceedingly graceful, have been restored, and a very handsome stained-glass window has been put into the chancel by Messrs. Clayton and Bell, of London. The figures in the first flight represent the Apostles St. James, St. Matthew, St. Mark, St. Peter, St. Paul, St. Luke, St. John, and St. Jude. In the second flight are represented the Nativity, the Baptism, the Crucifixion, the Resurrection, and the Ascension of our Saviour; and in the last flight the Annunciation, the Presentation, Christ's Agony in the Garden, St. Peter and St. John running to the Sepulchre, and the Charge to St. Peter. The stonework has been re-pointed in the nave, transepts, and aisles, and that in the chancels and chapels has been carefully plastered. The walls and arches were formerly covered with plaster or whitewash, and this has been removed so that the excellent colour of the walls and that of the seatings harmonise completely with each other. The chancel and chancel-chapels have been stuccoed. The nave roof has been entirely stripped and thoroughly restored, new boarded, and leaded. The chancel roof was found to be in such a bad state as to require being made entirely new, which has been done. The floor of the church has been covered with a bed of concrete six inches deep, and the old monumental stones raised to this level. The church originally contained five altars—one in each of the two chapels, one in the chancel, and two in the transepts. In the chancel there are some monuments to the Walcott and other families. Attached to the church is a very fine crypt, which was formerly used as a charnel-house. This has now been cleaned out, and is used as a receptacle for fuel. The chancel is not yet finished, as subscriptions are being raised to purchase a reredos. Mr. Walker, of Francis-street, London, is building a large organ for the church; and, as it could not be finished in time for the reopening, a small but powerful organ was put up for the occasion, and will be used till the large organ is finished. The total cost of the restorations will amount to about £5000.



OUNDLE CHURCH, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE, LATELY RESTORED.

GREAT FLOOD OF THE RIVER ARNO AT FLORENCE.

We have been favoured by Mr. E. W. Cooke, R.A., with a sketch made by himself at Florence, on the 6th ult., during the flood which visited that city from the sudden rise of the river Arno, caused by a storm of rain among the neighbouring mountains. Some accounts of it have already been published, but the following extract from Mr. Cooke's letter, dated Florence, Nov. 9, will best explain the sketch we have engraved:—"Having safely crossed the river Po, which was greatly swollen, on my way from Venice, I arrived in Florence by the last train from Bologna before the railway was destroyed, as it was in several places, by the late fearful floods. Heavy falls of rain commenced on Friday, Nov. 4, but on Saturday afternoon a storm of thunder, lightning, and rain commenced, which was almost unparalleled in its force and continuance, and raged till three a.m. on Monday. The pent-up waters of the Mugnone and Arno, with their numerous tributary torrents from the vast amphitheatre of mountains surrounding Florence, suddenly burst into the valley, and rushed with irresistible force through the several bridges, rising in about six hours to the height of 17 ft. Great apprehension was felt for the safety of the Ponte Vecchio, covered with its numerous shops, the flood reaching to the crown of the outer arches of this bridge. The scene between this and the Ponte della Trinità presented the extraordinary appearance of a turbulent sea, not of water, but of mud, mingled with the débris of forests, vineyards, and gardens.

"On Sunday evening the Lung' Arno was covered; the torrent flowing over the parapet of the massive wall inclosing the river. Thousands of people could not reach their homes, as strong pickets of police and the military, with torches, guarded the approaches to the bridges. The streets adjoining the river on the southern side were rendered impassable by the depth of the flood. The Cascine was inundated to the depth of some feet, and when the waters subsided a vast mass of drift and mud covered the surface. Many fatal casualties occurred to the passengers by the railway from Pistoja—a massively-built bridge and huge iron girders being almost all carried away. Many persons saved themselves by climbing trees, and were rescued after a fearful night of cold, rain, and hunger. The inundation rose to within a few inches of the white line on the houses opposite the Lung' Arno, marking the level of the great flood of 1844. The sketch (taken from my window, on the Lung' Arno, looking south) represents the beautiful work of Ammanati (built in 1569), the Ponte della Trinità, with the Church of Santo Spirito and the Hill of Bellosguardo in the distance. As regards the city itself, the damage was confined to the houses and streets which are contiguous to the Arno; but in the flat portion of the surrounding country a large amount of property was destroyed or injured.

THE WITCH DOCTORS OF SOUTH AFRICA.

The Kaffir tribes of British Kaffraria, as well as those in other parts of South Africa, have a large body of native doctors residing amongst them, who exercise great influence over the people, and in whom all the Kaffirs are in the habit of placing implicit confidence for their treatment of the sick. The Kaffirs, indeed, are a doctor-loving people; their doctors and prophets form part of the machinery of their government, which is upheld by their feeling of devout and superstitious obedience. The Kaffir doctor is therefore usually patronised and supported by the chief of the tribe. The corporation or college of native practitioners of South Africa consists of men and women, some of whom confine themselves to the mere practice of medicine; while others, not content with the administration of native remedies, profess to be able to "smell out" the persons who have, as they say, bewitched the sick people. Every doctor is supposed to have been called to his profession by a supernatural authority. It may be that during an illness he has acquired, or fancies he has acquired, a knowledge of the medicinal properties of some plant, the secret of which, he tells his friends, has been communicated to him by the spirits. Some of the doctors of the tribe are then consulted, and if it should be decided that he has "a call," he goes into retirement for some time; during which he holds little if any intercourse with the world, being devoted to the acquisition of knowledge from the spirits. During his retreat a dance is frequently held to propitiate the spirits on his behalf. At the end of his retreat the doctors assemble; the candidate for admission as a member of the healing art is then duly examined, and, if he be considered qualified, the herb or plant, the properties of which are said to have been revealed to him, is cut up, boiled in water, and poured over the head of the aspirant to the medical profession. This ceremony is called "Uknpehlelewa," and the doctor who performs the ceremony generally gets a fee for his trouble. A cow or bullock is then killed, in order that the doctors may partake of it in company. The Kaffir doctors believe and teach that all disease is caused by witchcraft. The consequence is, that they will sometimes inflict cruel torture and even death upon the unhappy victims of this degrading superstition. The following instance, omitting the name of the Kaffir chief, is told in the very words of an Englishman who witnessed the affair:—

"When I was living at ——'s place, one of his councillors was taken sick, and —— told his people to go and say to Mazonda, a witch doctor, that he wished him to 'smell out' the person who had bewitched the sick man. The doctor came, and the people were collected for a witch dance. We all formed a circle, standing close together. The men began by striking together bundles of assagais, singing at the same time, and throwing their bodies into all sorts of contortions; while the women did the same, clapping their hands. The doctor then made his appearance; his face, one side of his body, and arms, were painted white; the other side was painted red; a jackal's tail stood out at right angles from his forehead, fastened round his head by a band; his arms were encircled with rings of ivory; his neck, wrists, and ankles with rings and beads. He commenced by running round the

NEW FREE SCHOOL, HOLBURN-STREET, ABERDEEN.—SEE PRECEDING PAGE.

OLD RADNOR CHURCH, THE BURIAL PLACE OF SIR G. C. LEWIS.—SEE PAGE 574.

circle with uplifted head and dilated nostrils, smelling for the person who had bewitched the sick man. A councillor named Doula, and a woman named Naguta, one of the wives of the sick man's father, were accused by the doctor of having bewitched the sick man. They were instantly seized and stripped of all their ornaments, and reins were put round their necks. The doctor said that Doula had frequently asked the sick councillor for cattle, which he had refused, and that Doula, out of revenge, had bewitched him; and that Naguta had asked a bullock from the sick man in order to get the hide to make a kaross, which the sick man had refused; and that on this account she also had bewitched him. Doula and Naguta were

A KAFFIR WITCH DOCTOR.

then beaten with knob-kerries about the head and face, producing fearful wounds. The victims cried out, 'Stop! we will show where the bewitching matter is with which we made the man sick!" They only said this, however, to escape being tortured. They showed pieces of dry dung and various other substances, which they declared to be the materials of their witchcraft. Messengers were then sent to the doctor to know if it were true that the prisoners had given up all the bewitching matter; to which he replied, 'No; it is not true; they have more.' A fire was then lighted and stones placed on it; the man Doula was bound down to stakes fixed in the ground, lying on his back, quite naked, with his arms extended, and hot stones were placed over his chest and belly, as well as along the inside of his arms and thighs. Naguta, the woman, was treated in the same manner; and both, after being thus cruelly tortured, were tied to a tree by the necks and there beaten to death with knob-kerries."

We are indebted for this communication, and for the photograph from which we have engraved our portrait of a Kaffir witch doctor, to Mr. S. D. Mandy, who supplied us with a view of the Grey Hospital and Medical College, in British Kaffraria, published in this Journal a few months ago.

A JAPANESE BARBER.

WE present this week another of those characteristic Illustrations of the manners and customs of the Japanese people, with which our Artist and Correspondent at Yokohama has abundantly supplied us. The sketch we have here engraved represents a Japanese barber in the act of dressing the head of one of his patients. He is gathering up the topknot, which is to be tied with an ornamental band, the rest of the crown being scrupulously shaved. The whole operation is tedious enough, but the elderly gentleman whom we see under the barber's hands in this instance has evidently made up his mind to a long sitting, with his legs tucked beneath the low table on which are placed a pair of basins containing the soap-lather and other lavements. The Japanese cutlery is excellent, and there is no fear of a blunt razor in this respectable barber's shop.

TESTIMONIAL TO ALDERMAN R. C. GARDNER OF LIVERPOOL.

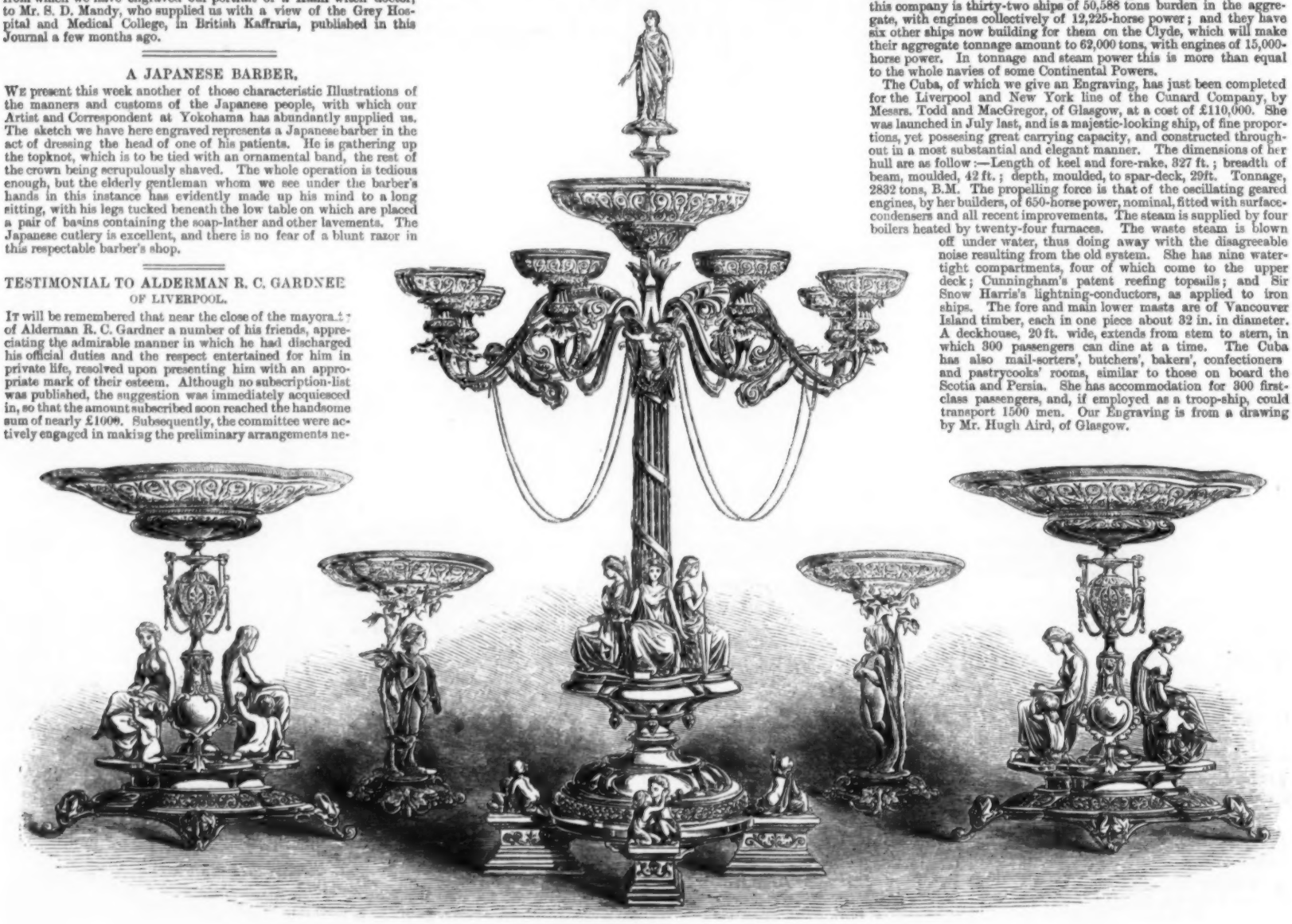
IT will be remembered that near the close of the mayoralty of Alderman R. C. Gardner a number of his friends, appreciating the admirable manner in which he had discharged his official duties and the respect entertained for him in private life, resolved upon presenting him with an appropriate mark of their esteem. Although no subscription-list was published, the suggestion was immediately acquiesced in, so that the amount subscribed soon reached the handsome sum of nearly £1000. Subsequently, the committee were actively engaged in making the preliminary arrangements necessary for carrying out the wishes of the subscribers. After a competition among the principal silversmiths of Liverpool, the design submitted by Messrs. Wordley and Co., of Lord-street, was accepted. The design — which is intended in some measure to illustrate the prominent characteristics of Mr. Gardner's career—consists of an elegant dessert service of eleven pieces. They comprise a centrepiece, 4 ft. 9 in. in height, elaborately ornamented; also two oval fruit-stands, and four large and four small circular fruit-stands. In the centrepiece there are four corner pedestals, supporting groups of boys engaged in plucking grapes and the various operations of pressing and preparing wine. On the principal pedestal are seated personifications of Faith, Justice, Industry, and Commerce, as the four elements of the late Mayor's successful career; and on the top of the column is introduced a figure of Peace, in reference to the auspicious circumstances associated with his term of office. A small shield on the base bears Mr. Gardner's coat-of-arms, an inscription expressive of the feelings of the donors being engraved upon a ribbon by which it is surrounded. To indicate the interest at all times manifested by the late Mayor in schools and charitable institutions, both in his official and private capacity, Benevolence is represented on one of the oval fruit-stands as offering temporal aid, and in that upon the other as extending spiritual instruction to the poor. Music, Poetry, Painting, and Sculpture have been similarly introduced on the large circular centrepiece; whilst upon the four smaller ones appear figures emblematical of Morning, Noon, Evening, and Night. The figures are executed in frosted silver, bright silver being employed for the bases. The testimonial is in every respect a most finished specimen of art, and worthy of the manufacturers.

A JAPANESE BARBER.—FROM A SKETCH BY OUR SPECIAL ARTIST.

THE CUNARD COMPANY'S NEW IRON MAIL STEAM-SHIP CUBA.

THE noble fleet of vessels belonging to Messrs. Cunard, Burns, and M'Iver, comprising some of the largest and swiftest mail-steamers afloat, are employed in the Mediterranean, the Liverpool and Havre, and the Glasgow and Liverpool trades, the daily mail service between Glasgow and Belfast, but especially the weekly mail service between this country and Halifax, Boston, and New York, with which is connected the monthly mail service between New York, Nassau, and Havannah also performed by their vessels. The Belfast mails are carried gratuitously; but for the American mails the company are paid the annual sum of £176,340 by the Post Office authorities. They have now carried these mails for nearly thirty years, and during the whole of this time have never lost a single passenger. The present fleet of this company is thirty-two ships of 50,588 tons burden in the aggregate, with engines collectively of 12,225-horse power; and they have six other ships now building for them on the Clyde, which will make their aggregate tonnage amount to 62,000 tons, with engines of 15,000-horse power. In tonnage and steam power this is more than equal to the whole navies of some Continental Powers.

The Cuba, of which we give an Engraving, has just been completed for the Liverpool and New York line of the Cunard Company, by Messrs. Todd and MacGregor, of Glasgow, at a cost of £110,000. She was launched in July last, and is a majestic-looking ship, of fine proportions, yet possesing great carrying capacity, and constructed throughout in a most substantial and elegant manner. The dimensions of her hull are as follow:—Length of keel and fore-rake, 327 ft.; breadth of beam, moulded, 42 ft.; depth, moulded, to spar-deck, 29ft. Tonnage, 2832 tons, B.M. The propelling force is that of the oscillating geared engines, by her builders, of 650-horse power, nominal, fitted with surface-condensers and all recent improvements. The steam is supplied by four boilers heated by twenty-four furnaces. The waste steam is blown off under water, thus doing away with the disagreeable noise resulting from the old system. She has nine water-tight compartments, four of which come to the upper deck; Cunningham's patent reefing topsails; and Sir Snow Harris's lightning-conductors, as applied to iron ships. The fore and main lower masts are of Vancouver Island timber, each in one piece about 32 in. in diameter. A deckhouse, 20 ft. wide, extends from stem to stern, in which 300 passengers can dine at a time. The Cuba has also mail-sorters', butchers', bakers', confectioners and pastrycooks' rooms, similar to those on board the Scotia and Persia. She has accommodation for 300 first-class passengers, and, if employed as a troop-ship, could transport 1500 men. Our Engraving is from a drawing by Mr. Hugh Aird, of Glasgow.



TESTIMONIAL TO ALDERMAN R. C. GARDNER, LATE MAYOR OF LIVERPOOL.

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GENERAL TODLEBEN, THE RUSSIAN MILITARY ENGINEER.

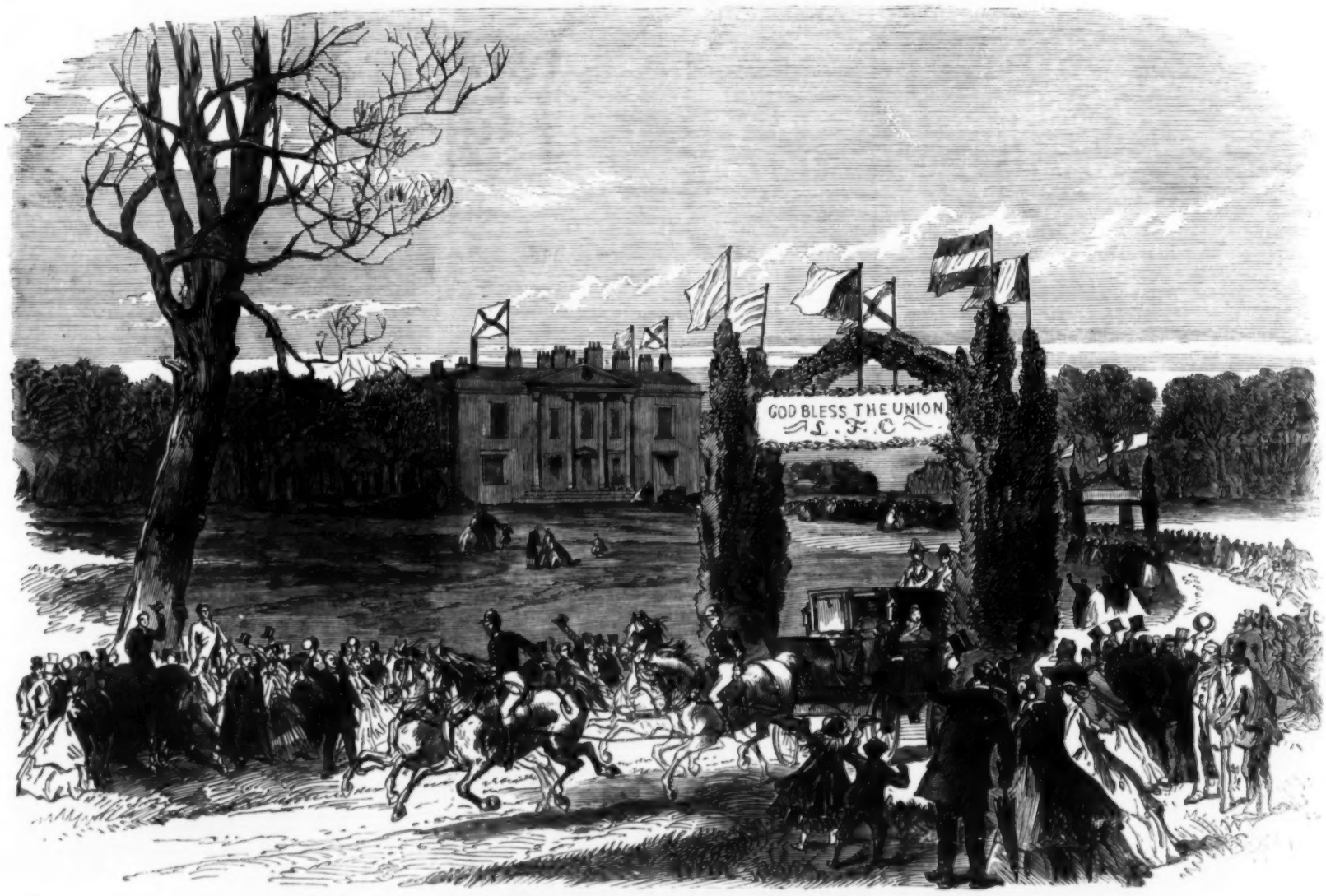
OUR Portrait, from a photograph by M. Steinberg, of St. Petersburg, is a fair likeness of that distinguished professor of the arts of military engineering and fortification who has lately visited this country as the guest of Captain Blakeley and has been received with much honour by the members of his own profession amongst us. Francis Edward Todleben, born at Mitau, in Courland, on the 8th of May, 1818, though a subject and servant of the Russian empire, is of German race. His father was a respectable merchant of the place just named. He was educated in the Imperial School of Engineers at St. Petersburg, and rose steadily in the ranks of his profession till 1848, when Captain Todleben was sent to take part in the siege of the Circassian fortresses in the Caucasus. After spending two or three years in this arduous service, he returned to the capital, and devoted himself to the theory and science of fortification, while directing the experimental operations of the sappers of the Guard at Peterhof. In 1854 he was promoted to be Lieutenant-Colonel, and was sent to the army of the Danube at the outbreak of the war with Turkey, but was soon transferred to the army of the Crimea. The circumstances under which he was intrusted with the construction of those extraordinary works for the defence of Sebastopol, which form one of the greatest achievements of military mechanics in recent times, must be fresh in the recollection of most of our readers. Since the peace of 1856 General Todleben has had no active employment, but has been much engaged in scientific and literary studies. His recently-published "Narrative of the War in the Crimea" has given rise to some controversies, of which probably we have not yet heard the last.

GENERAL TODLEBEN, THE RUSSIAN MILITARY ENGINEER.

MARRIAGE FESTIVITIES AT QUIDDENHAM HALL.

QUIDDENHAM, in Norfolk, the seat of the Earl of Albemarle, was the scene of glad festivities on Wednesday week, upon the occasion of the marriage of Lady Louisa Keppel, the Earl's daughter, to the Hon. Frederick William Charteris, Commander, R.N., a son of the Earl of Wemyss and March. The ceremony took place in the Church of St. Andrew, Quiddenham, which had been tastefully decorated with evergreens and flowers by some of the ladies of the neighbourhood. The service was performed by the Hon. and Rev. E. S. Keppel, uncle of the bride. It was witnessed by the Earl and Countess of Albemarle, the Earl of Wemyss and March; Admiral Sir H. Keppel, K.C.B.; the Hon. Colonel Cust, Lord Charles Scott; Viscount Bury, M.P.; Viscountess Bury; Lord Elcho, M.P., and Lady Elcho; Hon. J. Lindsay, Lady Maria Keppel, and Lady Sophia Keppel, with a numerous company of friends. There were seven bridemaids--Lady Augusta Keppel, Lady Georgiana Russell, Miss Boileau, Miss Garnier, Miss Theodora Keppel, Miss Isabella Stephenson, and Miss May Hill. The bridegroom was accompanied by Lord Charles Scott. The wedding-party, having returned to the hall, were entertained with breakfast, and numerous gifts were presented to the newly-married pair; amongst which was a little silver box, turned by Prince Alfred, and inscribed with the initial of his Royal Highness; while Mr. Etheredge, on the part of the tenantry, handed to the bride a handsome gold bracelet, with three diamonds, set in stars. It contained the following inscription:—"Presented to the Lady Louisa Keppel as a mark of esteem by the tenantry and agent of the Earl of Albemarle on her wedding-day." About four o'clock the happy couple left the hall in a carriage and four. They were greeted with the hearty acclamations of a large number of persons assembled in the park. Our Illustration will give some idea of this scene. Flags were flying from the roof of the mansion, and at each evergreen arch; on the one at the Kenninghall entrance there was an inscription, "Long live the Queen," with smaller mottoes by the side, "Peace and Content," and "Union and Liberty." In the carriage drive from the hall to the church there were two triumphal arches of evergreens. On the arch nearest to the hall there were two mottoes—on one side, "God bless the Union," surmounted by the monogram, "A. W.," and on the other side "Long Life and Happiness," with the reversed monogram, "W. A." The other arch bore the initials of the bride and bridegroom.

Captain and Lady Louisa Charteris proceeded, by way of Thetford and Ely, to Peterborough, where they were to pass a week or two at Holme Wood, the residence of Lady Louisa Wells, sister of the bride.



MARRIAGE FESTIVITIES AT QUIDDENHAM PARK, NORFOLK, THE SEAT OF THE EARL OF ALBEMARLE.

THE SMITHFIELD CLUB CHRISTMAS SHOW.

Save and except the stereotyped bullock on the omnibuses, everything seems to have changed since the good old Baker-street days. Frost and snow are out of the December book of fashions. The club "grinds up its saplings," and has not a vestige of sympathy left for orthodox ox-beef; and the grey-haired seniors and juveniles of the fat-stock world, instead of waiting for the thrilling moment, about the stroke of eight, and then dashing-in pell-mell like a lot of schoolboys to hear the fate of the gold medal, now prosily take their seat in the Islington gallery early in the day, and watch every judicial feature and attitude of the cautious and "dauntless three." We are not impugning the propriety of progress. Far from it. Years ago, when we came back from Dublin, and narrated how we had watched all the phases of the great yearling-bull St. Leger from the gallery, we said that the Smithfield Society were left without excuse; and, as to the rosette and public-judging systems, we had become almost tired of advising managers of shows to go to the Yorkshire and see how well they worked. Both rosettes and galleries have been adopted now, and, better still, with the aid of those who, to do them justice, consistently did to the last what little they could against public judging. A telegraph has been added as well, so as to keep the gallery *au courant* with the bench. Still, we must breathe a conservative sigh for the old evening soirée of the club, and say that, with the lamented Duke of Richmond and Jonas Webb at the head of them, there never was such a cheery meeting of men "who put their trust in wedders and in beeves," and never will be again. Now the crack "young men from the country" have nearly all left Islington by six o'clock, and after that the wheels of the evening drive heavily enough.

The death of Mr. Fowler, who has so long stood in the van of the steam-plough makers, was received with deep regret. It seems that he had broken his arm while out hunting, and that lockjaw had set in. Yorkshiremen also told of the Jacksonian purchase of Blair Athol for £7500 when Sir Joseph would not part with Asteroid, and how Sam Wiley had won the bullock cup at the York show; and it was also stated by them most confidently that the Warlaby herd will be sold.

The two cups were not decided till after three o'clock, and then, as the side avenues were at liberty, the public flocked keenly out of the gallery to the nearest points to look on. Sir William Capel de Brooke's and Mr. Pulver's bullocks were soon sent back, despite their double firsts, as both were out of the place in the company they were now called upon to keep. The Hereford judges, it was said, held out for Mr. Phillips's ox at first, but his feet were in bad order, and, after all the Birmingham flourish of trumpets which heralded him, he is—not what we expected to find him—deficient before the shoulder and without especial grandeur as a whole. As for Mr. Martin's ox, which ran him so close at Birmingham, no one seemed to look at him, except those who were outside the ring. Judges are not very catholic-minded generally, and dislike "a crossbred," unless his pretensions are overpowering. One of them noticed him in anything but a complimentary manner, as he fairly flew at him and gave him two blows with his fist, as if by way of expressing his contempt; and with these compliments of the season the Aberdeen and Darlington crack of 1862-3 was dismissed to his stall. Another seemed to preach the merits of a young red and white as earnestly as Peter the Hermit recommended the crusades; and eventually the whole bench were converts to his eloquence, and the red and white rosette went to Biscathorpe. As a decision, we do not think that it met with general indorsement. The Hereford men said that if theirs did not get the cup the big roan was fairly entitled to it; and they were more convinced than ever on this point when, although his shoulders were good enough, 7 ft. 11 in. was all that could be made of the lucky young steer's girth. The cow and heifer cup was a much shorter business. Even the Hereford men did not claim it with Mr. Stedman's cow, although she was a Birmingham gold medallist; and, although Mr. Stratton bred Lady Windsor, he openly said that she had no claim to beat the roan Trinket. Thus, shorthorns reigned as supreme as the Herefords had done the week before.

The Devon men have a traditional leaning to London, as have the Hereford to Bingley Hall, and the twelve entries of the Midlands were nearly trebled. Mr. Smith's young steer, bred by Mr. George Turner, was, of course, not fully furnished, but for levelness and quality of coat he was very beautiful. A fine loin starved some other points in Mr. Frampton, of Mogridge's, breeding, and the second had one of the snuggest twists that ever Devon wore. Mr. Farthing's ox was a deep and rather rough one, and not standing especially well on his hind legs. A great many in this class sacrificed Devon style altogether; but Somerset oxen have always trenched sadly in style upon the Sussex. Cheerful was quite a Mother in Israel, 8½ years old, and seven calves to her credit, so that, with her two firsts, she doesn't owe her owner one *farthing*.

The thirty-seven Herefords were by no means remarkable; and we have seldom seen them as a lot so lacking in level points. In fact, as Mr. McCombie would say, they were just "good commercial beasts," and, with a few exceptions, very little beyond it. It was a case of heads and tails among them; and, even with one of the Birmingham judges (a very bad plan, as exhibitors have a right, if possible, to the advantage of a fresh eye), the decisions were very much altered. Mr. Philipps had two commended oxen, bred by Mr. Monkhouse, and now hailing from Surrey, on each side of him; but one had gone in his rumps, and the other did not carry out his other points as he did his length, which was very fine. The females were much cleverer. Lady Ashford looked half the size of her coeval Boniface in the heifer class; but in her loin, and skin, and, in fact, in every point, she "left her standing." The cow class was very strong, and there were two now between Mr. Stedman's Duchess of Gloucester and Mr. Baldwin's Bright Eyes, who shared the H. C. with another good one, Friday the Seventh, whose horn might have been larger with advantage.

The sixty-eight shorthorn oxen and steers were more level, perhaps, as a lot than the Herefords; but still there were some dreadfully lumpy ones among them. The great mass of the older ones were much of a muchness, and probably, if they had been judged by a third trio, those authorities would have differed as much from the Islington bench as the latter did (barring the double firsts) from the Birmingham. Mr. Stratton got a C. and H. C. in the young class with two nice roans; and Mr. Kirkham wound up this *annus mirabilis*, in which he let 150 Lincolns at £22 12s. 4d., and ten of these at £100 each, by winning the cup with his thirty months' youngster in the very first year of the class. By way of making a good finish, he got £70 of it through Mr. Giblett, the eminent salesman and founder of the hall and its horse show. The winner was a clever beast, of a beautiful Christmas coat and colour, and bred from Mr. Dixon of Calstor's Orthodox sort. Mr. Pulver's winner in the next class lacked shortness of leg and a little nicer placing of his shoulders; and this remark applies to the Geddington ox, who had a remarkably sweet countenance and taking style about him, at first sight, but would hardly bear pulling to pieces.

Two immense whites followed in his wake, one of them Earl Gainsborough's, which should have decidedly stood behind the third, a deep, short-legged one of Mr. Carr's, and a great Yorkshire winner; and therefore the subject of the most affectionate scrutiny from Steel, the Turf bookmaker. The judging in this class was directly opposed to the Birmingham, which certainly jumps more with our views, as nothing could justify passing Mr. Outhwaite's without even a mention. His fore legs are a trifle forward and his rump ends are not just the thing, and an inch off his legs would have improved him, but his loins, firm touch and contour, are very nice. Mr. Moir had an H.C., making the second, with two C's and a third prize, that he has received on his trial-trip from Aberdeenshire south.

Trinket, a granddaughter of Great Mogul, and with all the fine substance but rather common piggish head which he bestowed on many of his heifers, never gave the Duke of Sutherland's lumpy Claret a chance; and Mr. Aldworth was third among the heifers with a lengthy white. The winning cow, Lady Windsor, was of Mr. Stratton's breeding, and a very fair one, with beautiful bone, but rather sloping behind. She was not in very high company, although Empress of Hindostan was among them. This wonderful cow has only had one calf in her seven years and two months, and if ever beast had a cast-iron constitution and an indiarubber stomach she has. After being constantly at store shows and winning largely, Lady Pigot took a gold medal with her as best fat cow in Paisy in 1862; last year she was up at gold-medal pitch for the Branches sale, and many regrets were expressed that her Ladyship did not keep her and try for it. Mr. Crisp bought her as a speculative bargain for £50, and here she ends her days. Her name has some magic yet, as the shorthorn men pricked up their ears when they heard of her, and we sent off two or three score of visitors to her for "auld lang syne."

Sussex entered fourteen of her reds. Lord Leconfield had rather a nice first-prize heifer, Young Handsome; and, oddly enough, in the steer class, the judges reversed the county decision, and put a great big fellow over the head of a much more sappy, and far smaller one, which might have stood without objection among the Devon oxen. No doubt they thought it was too much like the "toy breed," and yet the countymen, who ought to set the fashion, thought quite differently. Spectators may well ask "What is truth?"

The dark chestnut Suffolks were not themselves by any means. One of Mr. Pollok's was all but Galloway about the head and ears, and the winner was rough and reanish. The longhorn steers were a pair of solemn antediluvians, and we shall be surprised if the winner's head is not hung up in Calke Abbey. Things have quite changed with the West Highland class since the juicy little Badminton used to be almost its sole boiled-beef representative. Now it is all size and lumber. Two great Breadalbane duns were in the ranks, and one of them second; but an "Argyle black," of very square Lowland mould, and a very beautifully-horned beast, carried the day. Lord Derby's Birmingham winner was not entered, but returned, like one of Mr. M'Combie's, for the Liverpool Show, of which his Lordship is the President. The great Aberdeen feeder was at Forres, where they held a very great fat show on Tuesday; and it would have saddened him to have seen his bullock which, despite its dyspeptic stomach of three years' standing, was a royal beast in its box at home, with a neck vein as snug as Stanley Rose's when she was in all her heifer pride at Aldborough. It was so wild when it started from Tillyfour that it took five men and six beasts to coax it to the station at Alford; but the journey had played havoc with it, and we could hardly have told it again. It was accompanied by a specimen of Aberdeen yellow turnips, which won a two-guinea prize at Birmingham; and it got first prize at both places, and again beat the Aberdeen Cup winner from the Gerioch; quite easily. Mr. Heath's leviathan was a very different antagonist; but, deep as he was, his dreadful middle was fatal to him and his sirloin hopes. Lord Southesk's Quadroona, once the pride of the Angus females at Kelso, won easily in the female class; but she has been going back, to our eye, for some months past, and never fulfilled her Sixty-three promise. Of course, Mr. Ewins Bennett has a good Welsh runt, and, of course, it wins. The Irish heifers were generally small blacks, with white backs; and the young crossbred steers were headed by a very capital grey of Mr. Thomas Dawson, of Poundsworth, near Driffield—two crosses of shorthorn on a galloway. The fusion of King Shorthorn in these classes was boundless—with Devon, Norfolk Poll, Highlander, Hereford, Ayrshire, Angus, and Galloway, and, in the case of the third prize, with a "Buchan." We should like to hear a "Buchan" defined. Two beasts bred by Mr. Moir were in the cross-classes, and two in the pure; and as there have been shorthorns in Aberdeenshire for more than thirty years, and all round Buchan and Ellon, we really doubt the distinction. There is no doubt that if Mr. Martin had put his ox into the pure-bred classes he would have won the first prize and had no prejudice against him for the cup. Still years do not improve him, and there had been whispers from wideawake Aberdeen that the public had seen the best of him. He was in great bloom when he won, two years since, at Aberdeen, and again when he won at Darlington last Christmas; but his grandeur will not last for ever, and our only wonder is that with the disposition to break down on the near hind leg they have coaxed him along so well. Mr. Longmore's grey shorthorn and poll has been second to him at both places on this last circuit, and testifies with his Rose of Summer horn to the Douglas blood on his sire's side. The crossbred heifer of Sir A. G. Cumming was so good that they brought her out for the cup. She is a lovely roan, with a hornless head, and the most symmetrical fore leg we ever looked at, better even than Venus de Medici's. One man had the candour to call his nomination "shorthorn and mongrel;" and Mr. Allan Pollok sent one in which Matadore had failed to neutralise the West Highland dam in the head. In the extra stock Sir Thomas Lennard's "Brittany" looked like West Highland and Ayrshire, with a dash of Brahmin; a breed which had blended in the most remarkable way with the shorthorn, resigning its hump, and colour, and horn, but retaining its shape, especially about the quarters and thighs.

The male synod of the outer porch were very ably headed by a Chieftain-Madoc bullock bred by Mr. Monkhouse. The Duke of Athole had one of his prize Breadalbane duns in it, with a most wonderful hind leg, which might well be highly commended; but some of the others were perfectly anythingarian. The female side were under the able presidency of Mr. Sharpe's roan cow, the best shorthorn at Birmingham, and bred, like her white helpmate, by Mr. Stratton, who is "coming" fast again on his old fat-show ground. The class included the "Buffalo," or, rather, the Brahmin, with the bone of a deer and as sharp as a weasel in its movements. Mr. Pollok was highly commended for a half shorthorn and Hereford; and Mr. Duckham was among the C.'s of course with one of the regiment of reds with white facings to which he is always such a trusty adjutant.

We have seen the pig classes more striking; but still they were a very good level average, and not so extravagantly fat as usual. Better still, only one lot failed to pass the "dentist." In point of first prizes, the blacks and whites were three to two; but in amount of prizes for pens the whites were seven to five, and the gold medal went to the seven months eleven days "Yorkshire and Cross" whites of Mr. John Saunders, of Blandford. For hair and nice getting up we saw nothing that took our fancy more than Mrs. Pelham Warren's Essexes, which beat Mr. Stearn's very easily, and gave away ten days. The prize ones had added "sugar" to their bill of fare, and all bore a remarkable dimple, not in their chins, but their cheeks.

A Wiscton third-prize lot in the next class were very hairless, one of them almost sore with friction. The "Chilton improved" were only middling, and deficient behind, and there were some sadly lacking in quality. The winner in the extra stock had the skin of a hippopotamus, and others looked as if they were ready singed in their lifetimes. We never knew where Sir Thomas Whichcote's great spotted one was to end, as he sat up to relieve his asthma; and there was one of the old sort, with ears and snout, and colour as if he had walked out of a Morland picture, and therefore not exactly a silver medallist.

Among the Leicesters, Mr. Foljambe fairly lost his lead, and was only fifth to Mr. Walmesley, the cup winner in one class and third to Lord Berners in another. Mr. Walmesley was backed up in the young class by his Driffield neighbour, Mr. Jordan. Of a truth, the Yorkshire men, both at The Royal and Islington, are taking a strong Leicester lead, and the old Sledmere blood is cropping up and blossoming gaily into red and white rosettes now that its grand old founder is gone. There were only four entries each in Cotswolds and Lincolns, with Tombs and Greetham at the head of affairs, which is a guarantee of itself; but Mr. Riley's Romney Marsh winners were very unlike the Kentish pens at their side, and seem to have lost all individuality in the Beverley air. In the extra Leicester wether and ewe stock the Burley and Barleythorpe pastures had each a silver medal; and the former sent a ewe nearly 117 months old. In the other extra long-wool classes, Mr. Marshall's Lincoln had it against Lincolns, Cotswolds, and Kents. The three Southdown classes were fought out between the Duke of Richmond and Lord Walsingham, but the Baron won the rubber, and the cup as well. In the heavy-weights the thing was so close that the judges seemed almost afraid to decide it, and looked and looked again; and in the extra Southdown classes it was the same old story—Merton first with the ewe, and Goodwood with the wether. It was a great show for Southdowns; but still, although there were individual sheep of striking merit, the pens were not so much of the pea-in-the-pod-stamp as we have seen them. This was also the case, not with Mr. Canning's rare first-prize Hampshires, but with the two pens behind it, which each had a very moderate sheep in them. One of Mr. Walter's was so very much below the mark that we doubted his right to be second.

There was no gainsaying the Shropshires; but we were not especially struck with the Oxford Downs, as a whole. Anyone who cares for fixity of type should see them before he comes to the Southwolds, Shrops, and Hampshires. The little Exmoors were very thick and good, and seem to have made a very great Christmas stride; and Mr. Peel won with some very rich black and white faced lonk wethers, by a son of Mountain King, who has been sold into Scotland to cross the blackfaces. The Downing Rylands, with their snug whiskers and legs woolled to the heel, were a grand, useful specimen of cold clay croppers; and the interest of the cross classes centred in the varieties of the cross between the Leicester and the Southdown, of which there were certainly three distinct ones in fleece, colour of face, and size. Mr. Overman got the crossbred silver cup again with this sort.

The opening of the large doors into the yard kept up a very capital ventilation, and the only thing that some of the leading exhibitors seem to desire are small partitions extending for a certain distance, so as to keep the cattle from grouping together as they do so awkwardly. The machine department was, as usual, in great force, and a good many repaired outside to see the fork Jack Straw, manufactured by Wright, of Boston, for raising straw on to a stack at a thirty yards range. We also noticed a patent animal protector corresponding to the "brats" used for hogs in Scotland. It is slipped on and off very easily, and the ventilation is preserved by the cord lining. Alderman Spiers's Cyclopean Washstands were also a feature. The attendance was as wonderful as ever, and highly consolatory to the company, which had just been hit for £100 and law expenses for a Russian blood-hound biting trial, which might, it is said, have been settled for £25. The club gave £1965 in prizes this year, besides the cups and medals, and has a balance in its favour of £4748, and £2691 invested.

The judges were:—For cattle—Devons, Herefords, Sussex, Norfolk, longhorns, Irish, and crossbreds—Messrs. Samuel Rogers, Suthbury, Newport Pagnell; J. E. Jones, Springfield, near Hereford; and G. W. Baker, Park Nook, Quorn, Derby. For shorthorns, Scotch, Welsh, and extra stock—E. Bowley, Siddington House, Cirencester; F. Fowler, Henlow, Biggleswade; James Topham, Welford, Notts. For sheep—Leicesters, Cotswolds, Lincolns, Romney Marsh, crossbred, Oxford, Mountain, and extra stock—R. J. Newton, Campsfield Farm, Woodstock; John Marriott, Goventon, Southwell, Notts; Hugh Aylmer, West Denham Abbey, Stoke Ferry, Norfolk. Southdowns, Hants, Shropshire, and Ryland—H. Lugar, Hengrave, Bury St. Edmunds; J. Bryon, Southleigh, Witney, Oxon; G. Cureton, Bram House, Shrewsbury. Pigs—S. Field, Farnsfield, Southwell, Notts; H. P. Jones, Portway, Warminster; George Turner, Beacon Downs, Warminster.

The following is a list of the prizes:—

CATTLE.

Class 1.—Devon steers, not exceeding two years and six months old.—1st prize (£20) to Mr. William Smith, of 85, Southernhay, Exeter, Devon; 2nd prize (£10) to Mr. Robert Wortley, of Suffield, Aylsham, Norfolk.

Class 2.—Devon steers, not exceeding three years and three months.—1st prize (£30) to Mr. Harry Frampton, of Blandford, Dorset; 2nd prize (£20) to Mr. Robert Farthing, of Farrington Farm, North Petherton, near Bridgwater, Somerset; 3rd prize (£10) to Mr. Charles Frederick Perkins, of The Grange, Kingston, near Taunton, Somerset.

Class 3.—Devon steers or oxen, above three years and three months old.—1st prize (£30) to Mr. Walter Farthing, of Stowey Court, Bridgewater, Somerset; 2nd prize (£20) to Mr. Henry Hine Ball, of Hankridge, West Monkton, Taunton, Somerset; 3rd prize (£10) to Mr. William Heath, of Ludham Hall, Norwich, Norfolk.

Class 4.—Devon heifers, not exceeding four years old.—1st prize (£25) to Mr. William Smith, of 85, Southernhay, Exeter, Devon; 2nd prize (£15) to Mr. John Bloomfield, of Warham, near Wells-next-the-Sea, Norfolk.

Class 5.—Devon cows, above four years old.—1st prize (£25) to Mr. Walter Farthing, of Stowey Court, Bridgewater, Somerset; 2nd prize (£15) to Mr. William Heath, of Ludham Hall, Norwich; 3rd prize (£10) to Mr. James Wentworth Buller, of Downes, Crediton, Devon.

Class 6.—Hereford steers, not exceeding two years and six months old.—1st prize (£20) to Mr. Aaron Pike, of Mitton, Tewkesbury, Gloucester; 2nd prize (£10) to Mr. George Bedford, of Hatfield Court, Leominster, Hereford.

Class 7.—Hereford steers, not exceeding three years and three months old.—1st prize (£30) to Mr. Henry Yeomans, of Llowes Court, Hay, Brecon; 2nd prize (£20) to Mr. Samuel Druce, of Eynsham, Oxford; 3rd prize (£10) to Mr. John Hatcher, of Marlwood Grange, Bristol.

Class 8.—Hereford steers or oxen, above three years and three months old.—1st prize (£30) to Mr. Joseph Phillips, of Ardington, Wantage, Berks; 2nd prize (£20) to Mr. Robert Wortley, of Suffield Hall, Aylsham, Norfolk; 3rd prize (£10) to Mr. William Symonds, of Lambourne, Romford, Essex.

Class 9.—Hereford heifers, not exceeding four years old.—1st prize (£25) to Mr. John Baldwin, of Luddington, Stratford-on-Avon, Warwickshire; 2nd prize (£15) to Mr. John H. Arkwright, of Hampton Court, Leominster, Hereford; 3rd prize (£10) to Mr. Richard Dyott, of Freeford, Lichfield, Staffordshire.

Class 10.—Hereford cows, above four years old.—1st prize (£25) to Mr. William Stedman, of Bucknell House, Shrewsbury, Salop; 2nd prize (£15) to Mr. Henry Bettridge, of East Hanney, Wantage, Berks; 3rd prize (£10) to Mr. William Groves, of Walk Mills, Lebotwood, Shrewsbury, Salop.

Class 11.—Shorthorned steers, not exceeding two years and six months old.—1st prize (£20) to Mr. John Walesby, Kirkham, of Biscathorpe House, Louth, Lincolnshire; 2nd prize (£10) to the Earl of Aylesford, of Parkington Hall, Coventry, Warwickshire.

Class 12.—Shorthorned steers, not exceeding three years and three months old.—1st prize (£30) to Mr. Thomas Pulver, of Broughton, Wellingborough, Northamptonshire; 2nd prize (£20) to Messrs. Frederick Lenney and Son, of Wateringbury, Kent; 3rd prize (£10) to Mr. Thomas Greetham, of Stainfield Hall, Wragby, Lincolnshire.

Class 13.—Shorthorned steers or oxen, above three years and three months old.—First prize (£30) to Sir William de Capell Brooke, Bart., of Geddington Grange, Kettering, Northamptonshire; 2nd prize (£20) to the Earl of Gainsborough, of Exton Park, Oakham, Rutland; 3rd prize (£10) to Mr. Francis Carr, of Heslington, Yorkshire.

Class 14.—Shorthorned heifers, not exceeding four years old.—1st prize (£25) to Mr. Richard Taylor, of Kingham, Chipping Norton, Oxon; 2nd prize (£15) to the Duke of Sutherland, of Lilleshall House, Newport, Salop; 3rd prize (£10) to Mr. William Aldworth, of Abingdon, Berks.

Class 15.—Shorthorned cows, above four years old.—1st prize (£25) to Mr. Robert Sharpe, of Courtlands, East Grinstead, Sussex; 2nd prize (£15) to Mr. Henry Greenaway, of Hambrooke, Bristol; 3rd prize (£10) to Mr. Robert Wortley, of Suffield Hall, Aylsham, Norfolk.

Class 16.—Sussex steers or oxen, not exceeding three years old.—1st prize (£20) to Mr. William Atkinson Langdale, of Holmwood Park, Dorking, Surrey; 2nd prize (£10) to Mr. William Aird, of Cage Farm, Tonbridge, Kent.

Class 17.—Sussex steers or oxen, above three years old.—1st prize (£25) to Mr. Thomas Barton, of The Grove, Robertsbridge, near Hurstgreen, Sussex; 2nd prize (£15) to Mr. John Shoosmith, of Berwick, Lewes, Sussex; 3rd prize (£10) to Mr. George C. Coote, of Tortington, Arundel, Sussex.

Class 18.—Sussex heifers, not exceeding four years old.—1st prize (£20) to Lord Leconfield, of Petworth House, Petworth, Sussex; 2nd prize (£15) to Mr. John Shoosmith, of Berwick, Lewes, Sussex.

Class 19.—Sussex cows, above four years old.—No entry.

Class 20.—Norfolk or Suffolk polled steers or oxen, of any age.—1st prize (£15) to Mr. Edmund Beare, of Paston, North Walsham, Norfolk; 2nd prize (£10) to Mr. John Sewell, of North Pickenham, Swaffham, Norfolk.

Class 21.—Norfolk or Suffolk polled heifers or cows, of any age.—1st prize (£15) to Mr. John Overman, of Burnham Sutton, Burnham Market, Norfolk.

Class 22.—Long-horned steers or oxen, of any age.—1st prize (£20) to Sir John Harper Crewe, Bart., of Calke Abbey, Derby; 2nd prize (£5) to Mr. W. T. Cox, of Spondon Hall, Derby.

Class 23.—Longhorned heifers or cows, of any age.—1st prize (£10) to Mr. John Faulkner, of Bretby Farm, Burton-on-Trent, Stafford; 2nd prize (£5) to Mr. W. T. Cox, of Spondon Hall, Derby.

Class 24.—Scotch horned steers or oxen, of any age.—1st prize (£30) to Mr. James Maxwell, of The Hill, Thorney, Cambridgeshire; 2nd prize (£15) to Sir A. P. Gordon Cumming, Bart., of Altyre, Forres, Moray.

Class 25.—Scotch horned heifers or cows, of any age.—1st prize (£15) to Mr. Allan Hollock, of Lismany, Ballinasloe, Galway; 2nd prize (£10) to Mr. James Stewart, of 1 and 2, New Market, Aberdeen.

Class 26.—Scotch polled steers or oxen, of any age.—1st prize (£30) to Mr. William McCombie, of Tillyfour, Aberdeen; 2nd prize (£15) to Mr. William Heath, of Ludham Hall, Norwich.

Class 27.—Scotch polled heifers or cows, of any age.—1st prize (£15) to the Earl of Southesk, of Kinnaird Castle, Brechin, Forfarshire; 2nd prize (£10) to Messrs. J. and W. Martin, of Aberdeen.

Class 28.—Irish steers or oxen, of any age.—1st prize (£10) to Mr. Allan Pollok, of Lismany, Ballinasloe, Galway.

Class 29.—Irish heifers or cows, of any age.—1st prize (£10) to Mr. Robert Christopher, Swafield, North Walsham, Norfolk; 2nd prize (£5) to Lord Berners, of Keythorpe Hall, Leicester.

Class 30.—Welsh steers or oxen (runts), of any age.—1st prize (£20) to Mr. Barwell Ewins Bennett, of Marston Trussell Hall, Theddingworth, Rugby, Northampton; 2nd prize (£10) to Mr. Francis Neal, of Pagham, Chichester, Sussex.

Class 31.—Welsh heifers or cows, of any age.—1st prize (£10) to Mr. William Benjamin Roberts, of Lovestone, Pembroke; 2nd prize (£5) to Mr. John Ransome, of Weathampstead, Bury, St. Albans, Herts.

Class 32.—Cross or mixed bred steers, not exceeding three years old.—1st prize (£20) to Mr. Thomas Dawson, of Poundsworth, Driffield, Yorkshire; 2nd prize (£15) to Mr. Robert Farthing, of Farrington Farm, North Petherton, near Bridgewater, Somerset; 3rd prize (£10) to Mr. Robert Moir, of Meikle, or Mikel Tarty, Ellon, Aberdeen.

Class 33.—Cross or mixed bred steers or oxen, above three years old.—1st prize (£20) to Messrs. J. and W. Martin, Aberdeen; 2nd prize (£15) to Mr. Walter Matthews, of Carbrook, Thetford, Norfolk; 3rd prize (£10) to Mr. Andrew Longmore, of Rettie, Banff.

Class 34.—Cross or mixed bred heifers, not exceeding four years old.—1st prize (£15) to Sir A. P. Gordon Cumming, of Altyre Forres, Moray; 2nd prize (£10) to Mr. R. Birkbeck, of Nettwood Gatton, Reigate, Surrey.

SHEEP.

Class 35.—Fat wether sheep of the Leicester breed, one year old (under twenty-three months).—1st prize (£20) to Mr. George Walmsley, of Rudstone House, Bridlington, Yorkshire; 2nd prize (£15) to Mr. Francis Jordan, of Eastburn, Driffield, Yorkshire; 3rd prize (£5) to the Hon. Colonel Lowther, M.P., of Barleythorpe Hall, Oakham, Rutland.

Class 36.—Fat wether sheep of the Leicester breed, one year old (under twenty-three months), each sheep not to exceed 220 lb. live weight.—1st prize (£20) to Lord Berners, of Keythorpe Hall, Leicester; 2nd prize (£15) to Mr. Christopher James Bradshaw, of Alston House, Burley-on-the-Hill, Oakham, Rutland; 3rd prize (£5) to Mr. G. S. Foljambe, of Osberton Hall, Worksop, Nottinghamshire.

Class 37.—Fat wether sheep of the Cotswold breed, one year old (under twenty-three months).—1st prize (£20) to Messrs. Thomas and George West, of Greenhill Farm, Bletchington, Oxfordshire; 2nd prize (£15) to Mr. J. F. Mills, of Burford, Oxon; 3rd prize (£5) to Mr. John King Tombs, of Langford, Lechlade, Gloucestershire.

Class 38.—Fat wether sheep of the Lincoln breed, one year old (under twenty-three months).—1st prize (£20) to Mr. William Greetham, of Stainfield, Wragby, Lincolnshire; 2nd prize (£15) to Mr. John Edwards, of Buckworth, Kimbolton, Huntingdonshire; 3rd prize (£5) to Mr. William Cranfield, of Buckden, Huntingdonshire.

Class 39.—Fat wether sheep of the Kentish or Romney Marsh, or any other distinct long-woolled breed (not Leicesters, Cotswolds, or Lincolns), one year old (under twenty-three months).—1st prize (£15) to Mr. Edmond Riley, of Kipling Cotes Farm, Beverley, Yorkshire; 2nd prize (£10) to Mr. Frederick Murton, of Smeeth, Ashford, Kent; 3rd prize (£5) to Mr. James Newport, of Elmsted Court, Ashford, Kent.

Class £40.—Fat wether sheep of the Southdown breed, one year old (under twenty-three months).—1st prize (£20) to Lord Walsingham, of Merton Hall, Thetford, Norfolk; 2nd prize (£10) to the Duke of Richmond, of Goodwood, Chichester, Sussex; 3rd prize (£5) to Mr. G. S. Foljambe, of Osberton Hall, Worksop, Nottinghamshire.

Class 41.—Fat wether sheep of the Southdown breed, one year old (under twenty-three months). Each sheep not to exceed 200 lb. live weight.—1st prize (£15) to the Duke of Richmond, of Goodwood, Chichester, Sussex; 2nd prize (£10) to Lord Walsingham, of Merton Hall, Thetford, Norfolk; 3rd prize (£5) to Sir Thomas Leonard Barrett, Bart., of Belhus, Aveley, Romford, Essex.

Class 42.—Fat wether sheep, of the Southdown breed, two years old (above twenty-three and under thirty-five months.—1st prize (£20) to Lord Walsingham, of Merton Hall, Thetford, Norfolk; 2nd prize (£20) to the Duke of Richmond, of Goodwood, Chichester, Sussex; 3rd prize (£5) to Mr. John Overman, of Burnham Sutton, Burnham Market, Norfolk.

Class 43.—Fat wether sheep, of the Hampshire or Wiltshire Down breed, one year old (under twenty-three months).—1st prize (£20) to Mr. William Browne Canning, of Elston Hill, Devizes, Wilts; 2nd prize (£15) to Mr. John Walter, M.P., of Bearwood, Wokingham, Berks; 3rd prize (£5) to Mr. Stephen King, of Beckhampton, Lambourn, Berks.

Class 44.—Fat wether sheep, of the Shropshire breed, one year old (under twenty-three months old).—1st prize (£15) to Mr. Henry Smith, of Sutton Maddock, Shiffnall, Shropshire; 2nd prize (£5) to Mr. Thomas Horley, jun., of the Foss, near Leamington, Warwickshire.

Class 45.—Fat wether sheep, of the Shropshire breed, two years old (above twenty-three and under thirty-five months).—1st prize (£15) to Lord Wenlock, of Bourton Grange, Much Wenlock, Shropshire; 2nd prize (£5) to Mr. Richard Dyott, of Freeford, Lichfield, Staffordshire.

Class 46.—Fat wether sheep, of the Oxfordshire breed, one year old (under twenty-three months).—First prize (£15) to Mr. Henry Overman, of Weasenham, Rougham, Norfolk; 2nd prize (£10) to Mr. Samuel Druce, of Eynsham, Oxfordshire; 3rd prize (£5) to Mr. Arthur Overman, of Egmere, Ira don, Norfolk.

Class 47.—Fat wether sheep, of any white-faced mountain breed, of any age.—1st prize (£15) to Mr. William Smith, of 85, Southernhay, Exeter, Devon; 2nd prize (£10) to Mr. John Tapp, of Twitchen, South Molton, Devon.

Class 48.—Fat wether sheep, of any black-faced or speckled-faced mountain breed, of any age.—1st prize (£15) to Mr. Jonathan Peel, of Knowlmere Manor, Clitheroe, Yorkshire; 2nd prize (£10) to Mr. Richard Eastwood, of Thorney Holme, Clitheroe, Lancashire.

Class 49.—Fat wether sheep, of Ryeland, Cheviot, Dorset, or any other pure breed, not specified in any of the foregoing division.—1st prize (£15) to Mr. John Beacroft Downing, of Holm, Lacy, Hereford; 2nd prize (£10) to Mr. Barwell Ewins Bennett, of Marston Trussell Hall, Theddingworth, Rugby, Northamptonshire.

Class 50.—Long and short woolled crossbred fat wether sheep, one year old (under twenty-three months).—1st prize (£20) to Mr. John Overman, of Burnham Sutton, Burnham Market, Norfolk; 2nd prize (£10) to Mr. John White, of Parsonage Farm, Rickmansworth, Herts; 3rd prize (£5) to Mr. Clare Sewell Read, of Plumstead House, Norwich.

Class 51.—Long and short woolled crossbred fat wether sheep, one year old (under twenty-three months), each sheep not to exceed 220 lb. live weight.—1st prize (£10) to Mr. John Overman, of Burnham Sutton, Burnham Market, Norfolk; 2nd prize (£5) to Mr. George Hine, jun., of Oakley, Bedfordshire.

PIGS.

Class 52.—Pigs of any breed, not exceeding six months old.—1st prize (£15) to Mrs. Pelham Warren, of Worting House, Basingstoke, Hampshire; 2nd prize (£10) to Mr. John Lynn, of Church Farm, Stroxton, Grantham, Lincolnshire; 3rd prize (£5) to Mr. Samuel Geater Stearn, Brandeston, Wickham Market, Suffolk.

Class 53.—Pigs of any breed, above six and not exceeding nine months old.—1st prize (£15) to Mr. John Saunders, of Fifehead St. Quinton, Blandford, Dorsetshire; 2nd prize (£10) to Mr. John Kent, of Goodwood, Chichester, Sussex; 3rd prize (£5) to the Countess of Chesterfield, of Bretby Hall, Burton-on-Trent, Staffordshire.

Class 54.—Pigs of any breed, above nine and not exceeding twelve months old.—1st prize (£15) to Mr. Geo. B. Morland, of Chilton, Steventon, Berks; 2nd prize (£10) to Mr. Samuel Geater Stearn, of Brandeston, Wickham Market, Suffolk; 3rd prize (£5) to Mr. Christopher Cattle, of Wiseton Grange, Bautry, Yorkshire.

Class 55.—Pigs of any breed, above twelve and under eighteen months' old.—1st prize (£15) to Mr. John Coate, of Hammoon, Blandford, Dorsetshire; 2nd prize (£10) to the Earl of Radnor, of Coleshill House, Highworth; 3rd prize (£5) to Mr. G. B. Morland, of Chilton, Steventon, Berks.

EXTRA STOCK.

Silver medal to the exhibitor for the best steer or ox, also £5 prize, to Mr. Lewis Loyd, of Monks Orchard, Addington, Surrey.

Silver medal to the exhibitor for the best heifer or cow, also £5 prize to Mr. Robert Sharpe, of Courtlands, East Grinstead, Sussex.

Silver medal to the exhibitor for the best Leicester wether sheep to Mr. Christopher Jas. Bradshaw, of Alston House, Burly-on-the-hill, Oakham, Rutland.

Silver medal to the exhibitor for the best Leicester ewe to the Hon. Colonel Lowther, M.P., of Barleythorpe Hall, Oakham, Rutland.

Silver medal to the exhibitor for the best long-woolled sheep (not Leicester) to Mr. Thomas B. Marshall, of Bronston, near Lincoln.

Silver medal to the exhibitor for the best Southdown wether sheep to the Duke of Richmond, of Goodwood, Chichester, Sussex.

Silver medal to the exhibitor for the best Southdown ewe to Lord Wolsingham, of Merton Hall, Thetford, Norfolk.

Silver medal to the exhibitor for the best short-woolled sheep (not Southdown) to Mr. Robert and John Russell, of Horton Kirby, Dartford, Kent.

Silver medal to the exhibitor for the best crossbred sheep (long and short woolled cross) to Mr. John Overman, of Burnham Lutton, Burnham Market, Norfolk.

Silver medal to the exhibitor for the best pig to Mr. Thos. Chamberlayne, of Cranbury Park, Winchester, Southamptonshire.

SILVER CUPS.

Silver cup, value £40, to the exhibitor for the best steer or ox in any of the classes, to Mr. John Walesby Kirkham, of Biscathorpe House, Louth, Lincolnshire.

Silver cup, value £40, to the exhibitor for the best heifer or cow in any of the classes, to Mr. Richard Taylor, of Kingham, Chipping Norton, Oxon.

Silver cup, value £20, to the exhibitor for the best pen of Leicesters, Cotswolds, Lincolns, Kentish, or other long-woolled breed, in any of the classes, to Mr. George Walmsley, of Rudston House, Bridlington, Yorkshire.

Silver cup, value £20, to the exhibitor for the best pen of one-year-old South-Downs, Hampshire, or Wiltshire Downs, to Lord Walsingham, of Merton Hall, Thetford, Norfolk.

Silver cup, value £20, to the exhibitor for the best pen of Shropshire, Oxfordshire, crossbred, or any other breed of sheep (not specified in prize list), in any of the classes, to Mr. John Overman, of Burnham Sutton, Burnham Market Norfolk.

GOLD MEDAL.

Gold medal to the exhibitor for the best pen of pigs in any of the classes to Mr. John Saunders, of Fifehead St. Quinton, Blandford, Dorset.

The post of Comptroller of the Stationery Office, rendered vacant by the death of Mr. J. R. M'Culloch, has been filled by the appointment of Mr. W. Rathbone Greg, who is succeeded at the Customs Board by Colonel Romilly.

The Queen has appointed Donald Malcolm Logie, Esq., Legal Vice-Consul, Canceller, and Registrar of the Consular Court at Smyrna, to be her Majesty's Consul-General at Constantinople. The Queen has approved of Signor Fortunato Lamouroux as Consul at Calcutta for the King of Italy.

The English brig Dee, Captain Mackie, recently arrived at Malta with the crew of the Heureux, of Marseilles, rescued from that vessel, which had foundered at sea. About the same time the French ship Empereur de Brésil, Captain Irasque, picked up at sea two boats containing the crew of the English ship Escort, which had been abandoned four days before. Both captains had refused any remuneration for their services, but the French Minister of Marine has presented Captain Mackie with a valuable marine glass, with a commemorative inscription; while on Captain Irasque, who had obtained a silver medal in 1857, a gold one has now been conferred.

SPORTS OF THE MONTH.

DECEMBER.

ALTHOUGH King Frost occasionally puts an end to hunting during this month, in his absence good sport may generally be expected, especially after a fall of snow, which cleanses the land and increases the scent. Shooting, too, may be had to perfection both at home and abroad, for many of our leading sportsmen think no more of a trip to Norway than our ancestors did in former years to Ireland or Scotland. A man devoted to the trigger may pass the months of August, September, and October in Scotland in pursuit of deer, black game, and grouse, and arrive in the Norwegian territory in time to kill many a capercailzie before Christmas; or, if disposed to make a Transatlantic trip, he may reach North America, and have some wild deer stalking before the new year commences, either in the prairies, Nova Scotia, or Canada.

Stalking, as applied to game, means a stealthy approach to it under cover of a blind. All predatory birds cautiously avoid the approach of man, and wild-fowl are equally shy. Among quadrupeds few are more difficult to get near than deer, as they are for ever on the watch. When the stalking-horse was first introduced we know not; but it was much in vogue among our great-great-grandfathers. It was a stuffed figure representing the noble animal, and was mounted on wheels, by means of which the sportsman approached its object, contriving to keep himself concealed from the observation of his game. It was used against the bustard, of which there were two kinds, when these birds were common in this country; against wild geese, wild-fowl, partridges, and hares. After a time, a real horse was substituted, which saved much trouble and expense; and deerstalking is now carried on throughout the Highlands of Scotland by live animals much more calculated to ascend and descend the mountains than mechanical imitations. In Scotland, parties who go out determined to realise the line of the old hunting-song, "This day a stag must die," generally consist of several shooters, with some Highlanders acquainted with the ground and the haunts of the game. These men are aware of the passes or tracks frequented by the deer, along which they are sure to pass when alarmed, and by the sides of which, in ambush, the gunners, in breathless anxiety, are prepared for them, with one or two powerful and well-trained dogs, ready to slip in case the deer is wounded and makes off, for deer, even when mortally wounded, will frequently run a very considerable distance. Wild deer are found in the Highlands from Loch Lomond to Sutherlandshire; in the more remote part of the latter county they are seldom seen, and beyond Caithness a straggler does not make his appearance in a dozen years. Stag-hunting over morass, mountain, and moors could not be followed by horsemen, therefore the only way of killing the stag is by stalking; and a man must be patient, hardy, and persevering to succeed in this exciting diversion.

Red grouse are found in the north of England, in Wales, Ireland, and Scotland; in the Hebrides, and in the Orkneys. The red grouse inhabit wild and extensive heaths and moors, and are equally abundant in the dreary regions of the Grampians, immortalised by Home, in his tragedy of "Douglas," on the wild moors of the Hebrides, on the hilly ranges of the south, the Pentlands, the Lammermuirs, and the heather-covered mountains of Peebles, Dumfries, and Selkirk. These birds pair very early in the spring, and the female soon goes to nest. The eggs vary from eight to fourteen in number, and are of a reddish-white ground colour, almost entirely covered with large spots of umber brown. Notwithstanding the manner in which grouse are shot down on some moors, and the number of poachers that are to be found carrying on their nefarious practices of catching these birds by sliding loops of horsehair set up across their runs, they are still plentiful in Scotland. The Earl of Strathmore's gamekeeper, some five-and-twenty years ago, was matched for a large wager to shoot forty brace of moor game in the course of the 12th of August upon his Lordship's moors in Yorkshire, which he performed with the greatest ease, although the weather early in the morning was much against him. In 1801 a gentleman in Inverness-shire shot fifty-two brace of moor game in one day. The above feats are recorded as wonderful; but in these days many a sportsmen would be found to kill quite as many, if not more, especially early in the season, when the young birds lie close. Grouse on an average weigh about 24½ oz. the male birds usually being a trifle the heaviest; but we have read of one killed near Richmond, in Yorkshire, which weighed 25 oz., and of another in the same county turning the scale of 29 oz. These birds are found in Lancashire, Derbyshire, and Staffordshire; and there are few better places for sport than at Beaudesert in the latter county.

The ptarmigan is the smallest in size of the British grouse; and, although it formerly was to be found on the mountain ridges of Cumberland and Westmorland, it is now only to be met with on the highest ranges of hills in the central and northern parts of Scotland, in the Hebrides, and in the Orkneys. The mountain ptarmigans are less wary than other grouse; they feed on Alpine berries, seeds, and the tender shoots of Alpine plants; and are so tame that they seldom rise except when driven from their haunts, and then take very short flights. Were it not for the note of the ptarmigan, which is something between that of the missal-thrush and the croak of a frog, these birds would often pass unnoticed by the sportsman, as their colour, being exactly the same as the stones with which they are surrounded, renders it difficult for the eye to discern them. Since the lovers of shooting have within a few years taken to visit Norway and Lapland, we should recommend those who are fond of ptarmigan-shooting to proceed to those countries, where the numbers killed are almost beyond belief; indeed, so great has been the slaughter that we almost fear to be accused of following Munchausen and his longbow, were we to record it. Sir Arthur de Capell Brooke, whose testimony is valuable, calculated that in one large parish in Lapland 60,000 birds were killed during one winter; and Mr. Grant, whose statements may be depended upon, says that he was assured when in Norway that the number of ptarmigan killed in that country every winter was astounding, two thousand dozen having been exported from Drammen in one ship for England, in addition to large numbers which are annually sent to the Copenhagen market. Bergen, Drontheim, and other ports on the west coast of Norway send immense quantities of these birds to London. Upon one occasion, late in the spring of 1839, one party shipped 6000 ptarmigan for London, 2000 for Hull, and 2000 for Liverpool; and at the end of February, or early in March, 1840, one salesman in Leadenhall Market received 15,000 ptarmigan that had been consigned to him; and during the same week another tradesman received 700 capercailzies and 560 black grouse. The profit made upon these birds by the West-end tradesmen is enormous. At Drammen a fine capercailzie may be bought for about 2s., English money, while a ptarmigan may be had for 3d. or 4d. In London at the shops of the fashionable "purveyors of game" a capercailzie will be charged 10s. 6d., and a ptarmigan 3s. 6d. or 4s.

We have referred to pheasant-shooting; we now turn to a most amusing recreation—a day with the rabbits, those nuisances to landlords and tenants, and the preservation of which creates such ill feeling between the owners and occupiers of the broad acres. Rabbit-shooting requires a very quick shot; the eye and finger must act in corresponding sympathy, for these prolific animals possess extraordinary speed for a short distance, and, when disturbed, dart away with the utmost rapidity, and that, too, in such a jerking, jumping manner as to render the greatest promptitude and quickness indispensably necessary for the accomplishment of the object. The rabbit usually seats itself on the surface of the ground, where it feels itself free from danger; but when found in this open situation it is never far from its underground retreat, to which it darts like lightning in case of alarm. For a hundred yards the rabbit is as fleet as the hare; it springs into its utmost speed instantly, which the timid animal does not, and runs a short distance upon a wind, but it cannot maintain the pace beyond a few seconds. It is on record that Charles Scarisbrick, Esq., of Lancashire, killed on his manor at Wrightington, in a few hours, upwards of 700 rabbits, and that he killed "thirty per minute for several minutes in succession." We were once present when thirteen guns killed, at Bradgate Park, 3300 rabbits in six hours.

The Cardinal Archbishop of Toledo has addressed a circular to his clergy forbidding women to sing in churches.

Captain Burton, the African explorer, Consul at Fernando Po, has been appointed Consul at Santos, Brazil; and Mr. Charles Livingstone, brother of Dr. Livingstone, Consul at Fernando Po.

COLUMN FOR THE CURIOUS.

THE news of the day is rife with projected public improvements. The good people of Finsbury are to have their park, after some twenty years' agitation; but the Finsbury folk were not to be "fobbed off." The Metropolitan Board of Works have just completed the purchase of 120 acres of land on the north side of the Seven Sisters-road, Holloway, for £45,652—considered to be a very low price—out of which the park is forthwith to be formed. Another project of the Board is the removal of Middle-row, Holborn—in Stow's time mostly tenanted by perriwig-makers. The objection to the Row is almost as old as the perriwig. At the south-east corner Sir James Branscomb kept a lottery-office forty years: he had been footman to the Earl of Gainsborough, and was knighted when Sheriff of London and Middlesex, in 1806. Opposite is the obelisk denoting the site of Holborn Bars; hard by, in 1748, lived Dr. Johnson, at the Golden Anchor; and in Staple Inn, the Holborn front of which, of the time of James I., and the houses eastward, are among the oldest remains of our London street architecture.

Twenty years, or thereabout, have elapsed since the Duke of Wellington was, one day, walking up the roadway of Park-lane, when, opposite Gloucester House, a carter came along with a country waggon and team of horses. He called to the Duke, who, being very deaf, did not hear the man, who had very nearly, with his wain, thrown down and driven over the hero of a hundred fights. The lane, it will be recollected, is so narrow and the footpath so inconvenient that persons often prefer the roadway; and this was the Duke's choice. The circumstance led to complaints of the Park-lane strait; but there the subject rested. It has lately been revived. A few correspondents have complained of being too late for dinner and the opera, through a block in Park-lane, and the evil is about to be remedied; notice being given of application to be made to Parliament in the ensuing Session for a bill to empower the Metropolitan Board of Works to form a road in continuation of Hamilton-place to Park-lane, opposite to Pitt's Head-mews, about 130 yards south of Stanhope-street. Should this work be carried out, it will nearly consign the lower portion of the old thoroughfare to disuse, or reduce its traffic to that of the last century, when it was called Tyburn-lane. Hamilton-place, by-the-way, was named from James Hamilton, Esq., Ranger of Hyde Park in the reign of Charles I. No. 1, fronting Piccadilly, was the residence of Lord Eldon, where we picture the ex-Chancellor waiting a whole fortnight for the Duke of Wellington to call upon him, as he had promised, to converse with him upon the Administration his Grace was then (1828) forming; the ex-Chancellor evidently expecting some post, though too old to resume his seat on the woolsack. All this time he never saw the Duke, "had no communication with him, either personally, by note, letter, by message through any other person, or in any manner whatever;" and some of Lord Eldon's colleagues in office (and much obliged to him, too) passed his door constantly on their way to Apsley House without calling upon him. At length the Duke called, and then came out Lord Eldon's soreness "about being neglected for a whole fortnight!" But now the whole Ministry was completed. "We conversed together," adds Lord E., "till it seemed to me we both became a good deal affected." This is an amusing picture of political grievance. Valuable art-treasures have been, or are, housed in this short *cul de sac*. In the top house on the west side, the Dowager Marchioness of Conyngham assembled her valuable collection of porcelain. Opposite, at No. 4, the Right Hon. Thomas Grenville kept the "Grenville Library," which he bequeathed to the British Museum; and, in the same house, Mr. A. A. J. Munro (who died a few days since) formed his fine collection of pictures, including the Lucca "Madonna and Child," by Raphael; specimens of Watteau, Jan Steen, Cuyp, Vandevelde, Reynolds, Wilson, Etty, and Turner. Mr. Munro, as we stated in our "Obituary" last week, was an amateur painter, and his studio in Hamilton-place was the resort of distinguished connoisseurs.

The National Gallery is about to be enlarged—a measure far too long delayed. Mr. Wilkins's building has been scandalised as a handsome front to St. Martin's Workhouse, which, however, is now to be taken down, and the site appropriated for the extension of the Gallery. Three stout legislative battles have certified this as the best site for our national pictures, so that Parliament can hardly refuse the powers requisite for the work.

In the projected extension of the General Post Office to the west from St. Martin's-le-Grand, will be taken down Bath-street, until 1843 called Bagnio-court, from the bagnio built here by Turkish merchants, first opened in December, 1769, and much resorted to for sweating, being found very good for aches, &c., and approved of by our physicians. The room has a cupola roof, and the walls are covered with Dutch tiles. Rubbing, shaving, and cupping were added to bathing; but the bath has long been merely a cold bath, though the fashion of the day would surely have made profitable a return to the Turkish bath. This old place will be swept away, but should not be forgotten in our bath history.

Mr. Fergusson has communicated to the *Times* a very interesting letter descriptive of the long-hidden sanctuary at Hebron, which he examined during his recent visit to Palestine. Mr. Fergusson is satisfied that the mosque is a Crusader's church, built after the sixth Crusade, A.D. 1228: the clustered piers, twelve shafts to each, and the form of the vault of the roof, preclude the idea of it belonging to the first kingdom of Jerusalem. The roof is a pointed vault of intersecting arches, of the form prevalent in Italy in the thirteenth century:—

The most beautiful thing in the mosque is the pulpit. According to a Cufic inscription on it, it was originally made for a mosque at Askalon, and finished in A.H. 484, A.D. 1091, and tradition says was brought here by Saladin. There is a similar pulpit in the Aksa at Jerusalem, nearly a century later in date, and neither so elaborate nor elegant as this, which is, without exception, the most beautiful specimen of wood carving I am acquainted with. It also interested me to find that both these were in the same style as the cathedral gates made about the same time for the tomb of Mahmoud of Guznee, which Lord Ellenborough brought away in triumph under the mistaken notion that they had once belonged to the temple at Somnath.

After his survey, Mr. Fergusson was taken to the long gallery on the west side of the court, and shown, or rather made to feel, the impression of Mohammed's foot, for the place was so dark Mr. F. could not see: it is a very perfectly sculptured impression of a human foot. The survey of Jerusalem, under Lieutenant Wilson and his party of sappers, is going on most satisfactorily; and by next summer we may hope to have as perfect a survey of Jerusalem as we have of any English city. Mr. Fergusson concludes:—"My examination of the localities at Jerusalem was tolerably exhaustive, and I have come back more confirmed than before in the correctness of all I have written or said with regard to the Holy Places."

Sheridan raised money upon everything, even his honour. When proprietor of Drury-lane Theatre, he turned the theatrical chest to account by depositing it, soon after the burning of the theatre, in 1809, with Mr. John Marshall, the upholsterer, in Soho-square, corner of Frith-street, as a security for £800. The loan was never repaid, and Mr. Marshall, after a time, parted with the contents of the chest to Mr. J. Patmore, whose son, Mr. Coventry Patmore, has just presented the plays, &c. (about 160 in number), to the MS. department of the British Museum. We learn from the *Athenæum* that the collection contains copies of several well-known pieces by O'Keefe, Cobb, Mrs. Inchbald, &c. These are of little interest. There is in autograph Sheridan's first dramatic composition, which he wrote in conjunction with his friend Halhed—a burlesque—Ixion's amour with Juno, and Jupiter's with Major Amphitryon's wife, the whole being thrown into the form of a rehearsal; and many years after identified as "The Critic," Sheridan's earliest work thus proving one of his best. There are several other pieces in the handwriting of R. B. Sheridan and of his son Tom; also an opera in the handwriting of Charles Lamb; two or three pantomimes; private letters, receipts, &c., besides pieces with Sheridan's MS. corrections. He must have excelled in this art, to judge from the elaborate correction, pointing, and polishing of his own dramatic pieces.

A "find" of less doubtful interest than the above is reported in the *Birmingham Gazette*, some dozen important deeds—conveyances, grants, leases, &c.—having been discovered in the offices of Birmingham solicitors relating to property adjoining Shakspeare's house in Henley-street, on the east side. These deeds bear dates from 1573 to about 1660. John Shakspeare, the father of the poet, was present at the signature of several; and the name of William Shakspeare himself is repeated a few times in some of them.

THE TOWN AND PORT OF NASSAU, NEW PROVIDENCE, BAHAMA ISLANDS.

THE TOWN AND PORT OF NASSAU.

The Bahama Islands, though smaller and less productive than the rest of the British West Indian colonies, derive a certain political and commercial importance from their position, more especially since the blockade of the Southern States by the Federal navy. The port of Nassau, in the island of New Providence, being at no great distance from the coast of Florida, and commanding the nearest entrance to the navigation of the Gulf of Mexico; with an easy run, moreover, to Bermuda on the one hand, or to Wilmington, South Carolina, on the other, has become a great entrepôt for the blockade-breaking trade. We are indebted to an officer of the 1st West India Regiment, stationed at this place, for a View of the town and harbour, which we have engraved. It is taken from the verandah of the mess-house of the officers of that regiment, and gives a correct general idea of the place and its buildings. The large gate in the foreground is the entrance to the grounds of Government House. The cathedral is in the centre of the View. The two long buildings seen beyond the cottages in the foreground are the barracks. The harbour is very spacious, and formed by the long strip of rocky ground called "Hog Island," on which coal dépôts have recently been formed, so as to prevent the quays being occupied by the vast store of coal required for the steamers. There is also a dock, in which a "blockader" is seen undergoing repair. The vessel seen beyond the cathedral tower is the Lizzie, built on the Clyde, an Engraving of which was lately published in our Journal. She was sold the other day at Nassau to a merchant at Havannah. Another blockade-runner is just crossing the bar and coming into port with colours flying, denoting a successful run; while on the horizon we see another just off to "Dixie." These little steamers are painted a light grey, or nearly white, which renders them almost invisible at a distance, and they glide noiselessly over the water; yet it is a common thing, now that the Northerners have made the blockade of Wilmington so rigid, to see the steamers come into the port of Nassau with their masts shot away or their hulls pierced by shot. The population of Nassau is now threefold what it was before the blockade, comprising people of all nations and every class; and many large fortunes have been made, especially by those who engaged early in the traffic; but the crowded state of the town, together with the cases of yellow fever brought here by the shipping, has caused that fearful disease to prevail at Nassau more during the last summer than in previous years. Several cases have occurred among the officers of the garrison, but only two have proved fatal. As might be expected, house rent in the town is enormously high just now; and so is the price of provisions, which are chiefly imported from home, since their export from New York is prohibited, lest they should be sent into the Southern States to supply the Confederate army.

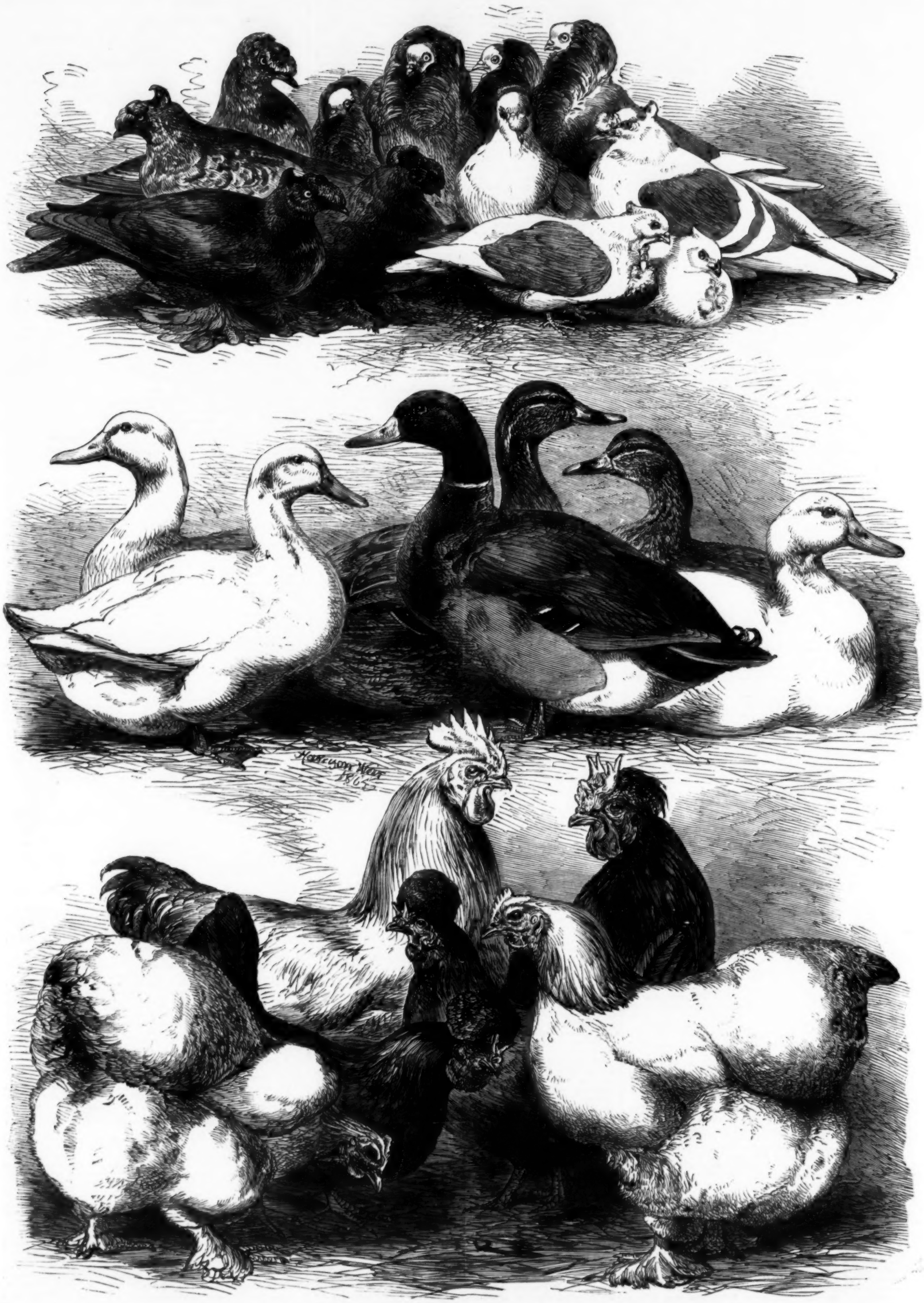
PRIZE PIGEONS AND POULTRY AT THE BIRMINGHAM SHOW.

In a show of immense excellence, and with no less than 300 pigeon and 1677 poultry entries, the difficulties of choice for illustration are most baffling. Our pigeon group, however, begins with Mr. Shaw's German Letz, which won in class 124, for "any new and distinct variety." The Satinettes were second to them, and the Isabels third. Mr. J. Percivall's Turbits, Mr. T. D. Green's Runts, Mr. J. T. Lawrence's Jacobins (yellow), and Mr. S. Shaw's black Trumpeters—a most marvellous pen—form the rest of the group.

The ducks we have selected are Mrs. Seamon's superb pen of Aylesburys, weighing 27 lb., and Mr. S. Shaw's Rouens, which weighed 25 lb., and, like their companions, satisfied to the full the stern poultry laws as to bill and plumage.

The cinnamon and buff Cochin-China chickens are the property of Captain Heaton, and won in a good class, as the Captain also did with his older pen. The Crève Cœur chickens belong to Mr. Joseph Harrison, of Blackpool; and, although there were only ten entries in the two classes, this "hobgoblin-looking fowl"—anent which Mrs. Ferguson Blair further adds, in her "Henwife," that "it is perfection for the table, and the eggs are very large"—will ere long have raised its split-heart comb on many a British dunghill. All the above-named specimens won first prizes.

His Excellency Sir Henry Storks arrived at Malta on the night of Nov. 29, in her Majesty's ship Pysche, from Marseilles. On Wednesday morning the Chief Secretary to Government, Sir Victor Houlton, repaired on board to take his Excellency's commands, and in the course of the morning the secretary to the Roman Catholic Bishop also waited upon his Excellency to compliment h. n in the name of the Bishop of Malta. Sir Henry Storks landed at noon, under a salute from the town, and was received at the Custom House landing-place by a guard of honour, as well as by Major-General Ridley, the Acting Governor, and the heads of the military and civil departments. The ceremony of administering the oaths was performed by Sir Antonio Micallef, K.C.M.G., the highest judicial functionary in the island, and they were repeated by his Excellency in a remarkably firm and audible voice, the Royal commission having previously been read by the Chief Secretary. In the evening his Excellency dined with General Ridley, and afterwards went to the Opera, the house being unusually well attended by a large and fashionable audience. The next day a popular address was presented to the new Governor.



PRIZE PIGEONS AND POULTRY AT BINGLEY HALL, BIRMINGHAM—SEE PRECEDING PAGE.

MEMBERS OUT OF PARLIAMENT.

The sub-Ministerial element has been remarkably prevalent. Five distinguished subordinate officers of the Government—distinguished in their own persons, subordinate in their offices—have been, so to speak, oxygenising their official systems by inhalation of the popular atmosphere. Not to say it profanely, three at least of them have to a considerable extent been seeking justification, and drawing on their credit with their constituents. Really, for the sake of the perplexities and the curious necessity for making speech not quite represent ideas which surround these gentlemen when they are subjected to electoral assimilation, it would be well if some such rule as that which excuses members of the Government from committees on private business of the House were extended to their requirement of extra-Parliamentary utterances. An enormous expenditure of factitious candour would thus be saved, and a species of moral rack avoided by Under-Secretaries and Vice-Presidents, which must unhinge them for the free discharge of their duties for a week afterwards at least. The case is hard enough when their constituencies number five or six hundred; but when a Minister of the second class, who has no right to any policy but that of the chief of his department, and who never can speak strictly for himself, finds himself arraigned before the electors of a populous borough, who vote in tens and twelves of thousands, his warmest sensation must be one of at least temporary regret that, in a moment of enthusiasm, he went in for the character of a man of the people.

To a great extent, in this condition is Mr. Layard; and one can imagine how akin to the feelings with which every one approaches the abode of a dentist must his be when he stands before the voters of Southwark, with all the aroma of the Foreign Office about him, and has to defend Lord Russell's policy as tested by its results in the last Session of Parliament. At the same time, let it be understood that of all men, Parliamentary and official, Mr. Layard is about the last on whose behalf one could talk in a strain *ad misericordiam*. Perhaps no public man of the time, of his official and Parliamentary years and his administrative calibre, less requires help and sympathy. Gifted with what we must call an unhappy audacity, as it is the only phrase which gives shape to our idea in the matter—a self-belief by no means unwarranted, and an unconsciousness of being anything but the most agreeable, easy-mannered, conciliating, and, above all, unanswerable sub-Minister, his struggles in the pumping-up of the necessary nerve to meet and compel by his influence and authoritative qualities the most popular, and therefore the most unreasonable and uncogitative, of audiences cannot be very severe. To come, to see, to overcome, is doubtless ever the prevailing sensation of his mind, however slightly he may realise it in action; and if one doubt oppresses him at the critical moment of projection it is soon left behind in the rush of the confidence which inspires him to go in and win. Then, too, he has some advantage in the composition and the elements of the constituency with which he has to deal. In the abstract, a popular electoral body singularly set apart from aristocratic or any of the ordinary influences which exist in many of the most democratic boroughs, yet Southwark is especially, and almost, if not altogether, unexceptionally, a middle-class constituency. It is probably the purest specimen of household suffrage in the country. Such a body, though ostensibly liberal in politics, is conservative in its social organisation; and there is, perhaps, within its system a latent rudimental tendency to gravitate towards officialism. The chairman of the Metropolitan Board of Works came out of Southwark, and we never heard of any wailing or gnashing of teeth therefore. Since the time when Sir William Molesworth was, in his character of a wild Radical, trapped, taken to Court, and made a Cabinet Minister; when, we believe, Southwark was positively jubilant, in the belief that they made the Minister, the principle which he thus represented seems to have been recognised and adopted. So Mr. Layard is not threatened with deposition, because he is an Under-Secretary; and Mr. Locke does not discover that his pretensions as an out-and-out Liberal are damaged by his showing a polarity towards such little Ministerial pickings as recordership and Crown business in the Courts. All this will probably be accepted as an indirect way of announcing that Mr. Layard, when he met his constituents the other night, came away unscathed. Denmark and the Duchies notwithstanding.

Although we never heard that Pontefract was a very exacting borough, or that any of its members have been made to tremble and crouch under the moral castigation of its constituency, still one could not but sympathise with Mr. Childers when he first came before its electors in the guise of a Lord of the Admiralty. Just at this moment the officials of this department, when they undertake to go through the ordeal of an interchange of ideas and sentiments with a popular assembly, must feel that they are expected to perform a feat which is comparable only to the legerdemain of the Davenports. They present themselves bound up in a series of apparently inextricably-knotted ropes, out of which they are to force themselves or to glide by some magical process. Mr. Childers, although from the first taking a prominent position in the House, has always borne his faculties so meekly—has conducted himself with so much modesty while he has displayed so much good sense and practical ability—that he is about the last member whom one would desire to see placed in a position of embarrassment. His mode of action as a private member of Parliament has always been so really candid and straightforward—he has so generally seemed to look at questions and subjects on their merits, and to treat them independently of any other consideration, that we conceive his difficulty in making out a case for the Victoria flagship, and proving that the Admiralty had taken exactly the proper way of recognising the success of the Royal Sovereign cupola-ship. In simple good feeling towards a very unimpeachable member and a gentleman who has all the qualities and capabilities for an excellent administrator, we could have wished that his address to his constituents had followed that of Lord Clarence Paget to the electors of Deal instead of having preceded it. Perhaps, had that been the case, Mr. Childers might have been justified in leaving the duty of making the worse appear the better part in the practised hands of the very best apologist for Ministerial eccentricities and shortcomings that ever sprang from the metempsychosis of an administrative reformer. In such a case Mr. Childers might well have hinted a ditto to Lord Clarence in all departmental matters, and confined himself to the larger and more general views of the statesmanship which he had prepared for the delectable bewilderment of his constituents. In truth, one seems to recognise in the comprehensiveness and the arithmetical profusion of his preliminary talk a sort of cuttle-fishing of the waters before he ventured to launch the Victoria and the Royal Sovereign upon them. After all, strictly speaking, he has no responsibility in regard to the executive acts of the Admiralty: he is in a manner the Parliamentary accountant of the department, and might have been well excused for not going out of his strict line. As to Lord Clarence, he rose with the occasion and outdid himself, and before him paled even the glories of that Pecksniff of whom wicked cynics are in the habit of saying that the Secretary to the Admiralty is an unconscious though brilliant disciple.

In the address which Mr. Bruce has recently delivered, when dealing with the subject of educational examinations, he demeaned himself with exactly the fitness which belongs to his office. The responsible Minister for Public Instruction should be in his practice and in his speech grave and authoritative; and, so far as he has been tested, Mr. Bruce has assumed the specific characteristic. On the other hand, there is a popular but very inexact idea that a Secretary for Ireland should be a rollicking, devil-may-care gentleman, much more Irish than the Irish themselves; and therefore there may have been in some quarters a sense of appropriateness in the appointment of Sir Robert Peel to that office. How he has sped may be gathered from his recent speech at Tamworth. He at least, in addressing his constituents, had no need to have recourse to special pleading; there was nothing in their mutual relations to cause him to gloze and fawn; and he had no peccant chief to defend, and no departmental errors to justify—to them. It is probable that not one of the Staffordshire voters that listened to Sir Robert's robust irregularities of speech, to his curious metaphors, and his singular art of sentence-construction, knew or cared whether he had been instrumental in proclaiming a state of siege in Ireland or had condemned an equal number of Orangemen and Roman Catholics to death by drumhead court-martial, by way of dealing out equal justice on the rioters at Belfast. No doubt, therefore, when he asked their sympathies for him in relation to the rough ordeal he had gone through, while endeavouring to make anybody in or connected with Ireland know why he of all men should have been selected to govern that country, they were very heartily bestowed. Through the medium of an anecdote, the point of which was rather obscure, he endeavoured to show that he had acquired some knowledge of the people; but, after all, it seemed as if his ministration was born of the same inspiration which induced him to set about to study the country and the people from the Irish elevation of the national vehicle—a low-backed car. It is to be hoped that, in the admittedly slow process of his adaptation to the duties of his office, he will not omit the very obvious qualification of catching the accent.

MUSIC.

Another novelty, though of a very slight description, has been produced at Covent Garden. It is an operetta in one act, called "The Bride of Song," the libretto by Henry Farnie and the music by Jules Benedict. It is a mere trifle, intended to serve as a *lever de rideau*, and to precede the principal piece of the evening; a purpose which it answers agreeably enough, as it contains a few scenes of lively farce and two or three pretty ballads, duets, and trios. But we regret that Mr. Benedict, one of the greatest dramatic composers in Europe, should have so employed (misemployed, we would almost say) his talent. When such a man makes a contribution to the English musical stage, it should be a work of importance, worthy of his name, and a fitting companion to the "Gipsy's Warning" and the "Lily of Killarney."

A débutante of much promise has appeared at Her Majesty's Theatre—Miss Susan Galton, a niece of Miss Louisa Pyne. She performed the part of Amina in the "Sonnambula" on Monday last, and had a favourable reception. She is very young—only sixteen, we are told—and very pretty. But she looks what she is—a mere child; is of course a novice as an actress, and her voice is quite undeveloped. She is, however, a very clever child, even as an actress, and much more than a child as a singer; for her voice, albeit as yet thin and weak, is exceedingly pure and sweet, and she uses it with the taste and skill of a well-educated musician. Her principal airs were warmly applauded; and it is evident that, with matured powers, she can hardly fail to turn out a first-rate performer. But she has come before the public too early, and had better continue to pursue assiduously the studies necessary to form an artist.

The Liverpool Philharmonic Society has been the first among the great provincial choral bodies to produce Mr. Henry Smart's cantata, "The Bride of Dunkerron," the great success of which at the last Birmingham festival was duly recorded in our columns. It was performed at their subscription concert, on the 29th of November, to a crowded audience, and with the warmest applause. The solo singers were Mdme. Rudersdorff, Mr. Cummings, and Mr. Lewis Thomas; and the composer himself conducted the performance. At the same concert, Mdme. Arabella Goddard (now on a provincial tour) appeared with her usual success. She played Mendelssohn's rondo in E flat, with orchestral accompaniments; Thalberg's fantasia on "Lucrezia Borgia;" and the same composer's variations on the popular air, "Home, sweet home."

Mr. Aguilar's last matinée of pianoforte music, at his residence last week, was highly interesting, and attended with the usual success. The programme (which was as follows) presented a selection of great and varied excellence:—Sonata in C—Aguilar; Andante—Beethoven; Caprice—Aguilar; "Evening" and "Last Look" (two romances)—Aguilar; Sonata in D minor—Weber; "Lieder ohne Worte"—Mendelssohn; "The Stars are Brightly Beaming" (transcription)—Aguilar; "The Blue Bells"—Aguilar; Passe Pied and Gigue—J. S. Bach; "The Birds at Sunset" and Valse Brillante—Aguilar.

The King of Bavaria entertains the highest opinion of the genius of Richard Wagner, whom he loads with favours. His Majesty, it is said, has resolved to found an operatic school at Munich for the instruction of students of both sexes, under Herr Wagner's direction. His opera, "Der Fliegender Hollander" (the Flying Dutchman), is about to be produced at the Court Theatre.

Mdlle. Titiens has begun an engagement at Hamburg (her native place) with Beethoven's "Fidelio."

Miss Agnes Zimmermann, who is now on a professional tour in Germany, has lately had the honour to perform at the Court of Hanover, in presence of the King and Queen and several members of the Royal family. She was invited by his Majesty to visit Hanover again next season to perform at one of the State concerts. Miss Zimmermann also played at the Künstler Verein in Hanover, at Bochum, at Cologne, and several other towns, and received everywhere the greatest applause. Miss Zimmermann is a pupil of our Royal Academy of Music, where she received her entire musical education. She was only four years of age when she came to England.

THE THEATRES.

Drury Lane was crowded on Monday to witness the tragedy of "Macbeth," it being one of the nights on which Miss Faucit, Mr. Phelps, and Mr. Creswick appear in the characters of the ambitious wife, the guilty Thane, and the noble avenger alike of his own desolated hearth and his country's wrongs. That the audience were fully sensible of the excellence of the performance was shown by their intense attention to the progress of the scene, and every line of the text as it was uttered by the eminent actors we have named. The finished elocution of each was evidently a delight to the listener and the immediate cause of the attention, which was equally general and profound. This fact ought to convince managers that the language of a play is of equal importance with the action, and go far to promote those reforms which are so needful for the elevation of the modern stage. There is still a large public for the poetic drama; and when justice shall be done to the living poet by those who have the conduct of theatres, there is no reason to fear but that an adequate supply of original dramas will vindicate the poetic character of the present age as equal to that of any previous period. A movement was made here the same evening for the promotion of "The People's Shakspeare Memorial," an address in favour of the project, written by Mr. John A. Heraud, and spoken by Mrs. Herman Vezin, being delivered from the stage, and well received by the audience. Mrs. Vezin acquitted herself with taste, judgment, and feeling; interpreting the poetry with grace and sweetness, and dwelling on the stronger lines with an emphasis that fully impressed their meaning on the hearer. The applause was frequent and fervent, and the fair reciter retired from the scene amidst acclamations. On subsequent evenings, similar addresses by other authors were also delivered: that on Tuesday, written by Mr. James Bruton, was spoken by Mr. Sinclair; that on Wednesday, written by Mr. Sawyer, was spoken by Mr. Henry Marston; that on Thursday, written by Mr. G. L. Banks, was spoken by Mr. Edmund Phelps; and that on Friday, by Mr. J. Hain Friswell, was spoken by Mr. Creswick. This evening, an address written by Mr. Robert Buchanan, will be delivered by Mr. Walter Lacey.

Mr. Gardner Coyne, the Irish comedian, has obtained a starring engagement at Sadler's Wells, and appeared in "The Irish Emigrant," "The Limerick Boy," and "Ireland as It Was." Mr. Coyne has equal command over the smiles and tears of his audience, and is pathetic and humorous by turns.

Mr. Fechter, on Monday, reappeared at the Lyceum in the part of Ruy Blas. In this character Mr. Fechter originally made his reputation in London, and he still performs it with a picturesque power that will secure its further popularity.

A new drama has been produced at the Surrey, called "Mandrin." It is of the nature of a melodramatic romance, very complicated in its plot and various in its incidents, but completely successful. It is a tale in the action of which the brigand interest is the principal element. Mr. J. Fernandez, as the hero Mandrin, the robber of France, is a picturesque ruffian; and Miss Pauncefort, as Margareta, his deserted mistress, acted with great dramatic force. The new drama is a work of stage-art in its way, and is artistically realised by the well-practised actors engaged in it. "The Orange Girl" has proved attractive, and will now carry the management triumphantly up to Christmas.

NAVAL AND MILITARY INTELLIGENCE.

WAR OFFICE.

2nd Dragoon Guards: H. F. S. Lucas to be Cornet. 3rd: Cornet E. Brett to be Lieutenant. 6th: Lieut. W. T. E. Bookey to be Captain; Cornet W. H. Hoey to be Lieutenant; C. L. Davy to be Cornet.

14th Hussars: Lieut.-Col. and Brevet Col. F. M. Martyn and Major and Brevet Lieut.-Col. P. S. Thompson to be Lieutenant-Colonels; Capt. F. B. Chapman to be Major; Lieut. W. Arbuthnot to be Captain; Cornet J. L. White to be Lieutenant.

Royal Artillery: Staff Assist. Surgs. H. C. Guinness and W. E. Alston, M.D., to be Assistant Surgeons.

Grenadier Guards: Lieut.-Col. and Brevet Col. the Hon. A. M. Calthcart to be Captain and Lieutenant-Colonel.

Scots Fusilier Guards: Major and Brevet Col. H. P. de Bathe to be Lieutenant-Colonel; Capt. and Lieut.-Col. and Brevet Col. H. P. Hepburn to be Major; Lieut. and Capt. H. Jelf-Sharp to be Captain and Lieutenant-Colonel; Ensign and Lieut. C. A. Wynne-Finch to be Lieutenant and Captain; R. Vivian to be Ensign and Lieutenant.

2nd Foot: Lieut. S. H. L. T. Wildrington to be Captain; Ensign D. F. B. Webster to be Lieutenant; W. W. Brownjohn to be Ensign. 8th: Lieut. J. C. Cooper to be Captain; Ensign B. F. Handy to be Lieutenant; G. R. Hamilton to be Ensign. 17th: Lieut. J. Emmett to be Instructor of Musketry. 19th: Lieut. B. Colclough to be Adjutant. 43rd Staff Assist. Surg. R. A. P. Grant to be Assistant Surgeon. 53rd: B. M Clintock to be Ensign. 73rd: Major G. J. Burne to be Lieutenant-Colonel; Capt. W. H. Barry to be Major; Lieut. St. John D. Galway to be Captain; Ensign R. J. Airey to be Lieutenant. 84th: Lieut. W. C. Clayton to be Adjutant. 93rd: Lieut.-Col. and Brevet-Col. H. A. Lake, C.B., to be Lieutenant-Colonel; Major E. S. F. G. Dawson to be Lieutenant-Colonel; Capt. R. S. Williams to be Major; Lieut. C. W. Losack to be Captain; Ensign T. P. Lloyd to be Lieutenant; Ensign P. D. Trotter to be Ensign. 98th: Capt. and Lieut.-Col. W. A. M. Barnard to be Lieutenant-Colonel. 103rd: Lieut. G. H. Bridges to be Instructor of Musketry.

Rifle Brigade: Quartermaster H. Harvey to be Paymaster.

1st West India Regiment: Cadet H. J. H. de Viemes to be Ensign.

MEDICAL DEPARTMENT.—Assist. Surg. W. Y. Jeeves to be Staff Surgeon. Assist. Surgs. J. J. Henry, R. Storey, and A. Moffit to be Staff Assistant Surgeons.

BREVET.—Brevet Major C. G. Arbuthnot to be Lieutenant-Colonel; Capt. J. H. Stewart to be Major; Lieut.-Cols. H. S. Baillie and G. J. Peacocke to be Colonels; Paymaster M. Thompson to have the honorary rank of Major; Staff Surg. Major A. D. Taylor to have the honorary rank of Deputy Inspector-General of Hospitals.

ADMIRALTY.

Vice-Admiral J. J. Tucker has been appointed to receive a pension of £150 a year, vacant by the death of Vice-Admiral H. F. Greville, C.B., and the name of Vice-Admiral Tucker has been removed to the reserved half-pay list accordingly; and in consequence of this removal the following promotions have taken place: Rear-Admiral H. T. Austin, C.B., to be Vice Admiral; Capt. C. G. Robinson to be Rear-Admiral.

In consequence of the death, on the 27th ult., of Rear-Admiral H. Lyster, the following flag promotions have taken place:—Capt. G. T. Gordon to be Rear-Admiral; Retired Capts. W. Louis, C. J. Rosanquet, and C. O. Hayes to be Retired Rear-Admirals.

Vice-Admiral F. Bullock has been appointed to receive a pension of £150 a year, vacant by the death of Admiral Sir Montagu Stopford, K.C.B., and the name of Vice-Admiral Bullock has been removed to the reserved half-pay list accordingly; and in consequence of this removal the following promotions have taken place:—Rear-Admiral W. Ramsay, C.B., to be Vice-Admiral; Capts. the Right Hon. Edward Lord Dunsany and E. Cummaney to be Rear-Admirals.

The colonelcy of the 58th Regiment has been given to Major-General Hay, the Inspector-General of Musketry.

Captain John Montagu Hayes, R.N.; Captain William Montagu Dowell, R.N.; Captain John Hobhouse Inglis Alexander, R.N.; and Lieut.-Col. William Grigor Suther, Royal Marines, have been made C.B.s.

The death of Lieutenant-Colonel Thomas Sowerby, one of the few surviving heroes of Waterloo, is announced. He entered the Army as Ensign in the Coldstream Guards on the 28th of February, 1805; embarked at Ramsgate in 1808, and went through nearly the whole of the Peninsular War. He had received the war medal and five clasps for the Nive, the Nivelle, Vittoria, Salamanca, and Talavera, and the medal for Waterloo.

The line-of-battle ship Marlborough, recently from the Mediterranean, was paid off on the 1st inst. alongside Portsmouth Dockyard. Prior to giving up command, Captain Fellowes addressed the men, expressing his regret at parting with his crew and his satisfaction at their conduct during his command. He hoped they would maintain their good character, and trusted that when he had another ship he might again command many of them. To James Wallace, chief gunner's mate, was awarded a medal and a gratuity of fifteen guineas; Henry Curtis, V.C., chief Quartermaster, also received a medal and a gratuity of ten guineas; William Green, caulker, a medal and ten guineas gratuity; William Bospdwick, Quartermaster, a medal and ten guineas gratuity; Edward Prettyjohn, a medal and seven guineas. During her commission the Marlborough has been what is termed by seamen a "happy ship." This three-decker has carried three flags in the Mediterranean successively—viz., that of Vice-Admiral Arthur Fanshawe, Vice-Admiral William Martin, and Rear-Admiral Robert Smart.

An official visit was paid by the Lords of the Admiralty to Chatham Dockyard, on Tuesday, for the purpose of inspecting the works in progress connected with the enlargement and extension of the dockyard and naval establishments. Their Lordships, after transacting some official business, inspected the iron frigate Bellerophon, 14, 1000-horse power, under construction in the second dock, where upwards of 1000 hands are employed on her. The members of the board then visited the Lord Warden, iron-clad frigate, building on No. 7 slip, and which is sufficiently advanced to be ready for her first tier of 5½-inch armour-plates. Both these vessels are being built from the designs of Mr. Reed, the Chief Constructor of the Navy, and they are expected to be completed in the course of the ensuing year. Leaving the dockyard by the eastern gate, the Duke of Somerset and the other members of the board visited and inspected the works in progress for the enlargement and extension of this dockyard by the addition of 300 acres to its extent, or rather more than three times its present size. About one third, or nearly 100 acres, will be covered by steam basins and docks, while the other portion will be covered by factories, workshops, and other buildings. Nearly 1000 convicts are daily employed on the works, and the first of the three large basins is expected to be completed in about a year from the present time. Their Lordships, on returning to the dockyard, visited the ropery, and inspected the new spinning machinery recently erected.

THE VOLUNTEER MOVEMENT.

A committee, consisting of several leading and influential officers in the volunteer service of the country, has been formed by Lieutenant-Colonel the Hon. C. H. Lindsay, for the purpose of establishing a trophy of high order, as an historical record of the various contests which take place at Wimbledon from year to year between the picked volunteer rifle shots of England and Scotland. The object which the committee will have in view is to raise a fund by subscription, on the lowest possible scale, from the volunteer riflemen in Great Britain, as well as from those who, though not enrolled, are nevertheless interested in the welfare of the movement and the national pastime of the two countries, which is undoubtedly the principal mainstay of its permanency. The committee will shortly meet to decide upon the details for carrying out the work, after which an address will be issued.

The first competition for the challenge cup presented to the North Middlesex by Lord Fermoy and Mr. Harvey Lewis, M.P., took place on the 23rd ult., at the Child's Hill range. Mr. Pavey made the highest score.

A match took place on the 17th ult., at the Harrow range, between the Ealing and the Harrow volunteers, resulting in a victory for the Harrow men, notwithstanding that they mustered nine instead of ten men.

On Thursday week four members of the artillery division of the Honourable Artillery Company competed, at the Park range, Tottenham, for the final possession of a silver cup, value 50 guineas, which had been presented to the regiment by the Court of Assistants in 1862, to be shot for by the different companies of the regiment, with the understanding that if it was won two years in succession by the same company it was to become the property of such company, and in the third year was to be competed for by the members who had won it for their company for final possession. It has been so won by the artillery division, and those four members who had won it for their division competed for it on Thursday week. The cup was won by Gunner Thomas Meggy.

A match took place on the 22nd ult., at Wormwood-scrubbs, between Nos. 2 and 10 companies, South Middlesex, and the Richmond 9th Surrey, resulting in a victory for the latter corps.

The autumn prize-shooting of No. 2 Company of the Victoria took place, at the Stanmore range, on the 22nd ult. The first prize, £5, was won by Captain Anderson; the second, £3, by Corporal Dry; and the third, a cup, by Private Ryley. Mr. Ryley also won a London Armoury rifle, offered by Captain Anderson for competition amongst those recruits who had completed their class-firing for 1864.

The members of the 1st Middlesex Artillery have just concluded their carbine-practice for the present year by competing for several prizes which had been offered by members and friends. This corps is in a very flourishing condition, and during the past year nearly one hundred effectives have been added to its strength. The principal prizes were:—Brigade prizes, given by Major Smith—first prize, won by Lieutenant Dixon; second, Gunner Williams; third, Sergeant Cull; fourth, Corporal Collings; fifth, Gunner Prichard. The regimental prizes consisted of Mrs. Colonel Creed's cup, value £15, won by Assistant Surgeon De Liele Allen; Major Wegg-Prosser's cup, £5, by Lieutenant Dixon; Lieutenant Sharpe's cup, 15 guineas, by Gunner Evans; Lieutenant Bevan's cup, 5 guineas, by Sergeant Greatorex. Prizes given by the officers of No. 8 Battery: First prize, by Gunner Rodd; second, Gunner Lane. Short Enfield rifle, given by Gunner C. Collette, by Gunner Prichard. Ladies' prizes: first prize, Captain Monckton; second, Gunner Means; third, Sergeant Whitmarsh and Gunner Chester tied. Battery Prizes: No. 1 Battery, Major Wegg-Prosser's prizes—1st prize, Gunner H. Smith; second, Gunner Mannings. No. 2 Battery, Captain W. C. Smith's challenge cup, Lieutenant Dixon. No. 6 Battery, Lieutenant Keirle's prizes—first, Corporal Davies; second, Sergeant Porteus.

The distribution of the battalion prizes to the 1st Administrative Battalion of Tower Hamlets Rifle Volunteers, by Lieutenant-Colonel Buxton, M.P., took place in St. Mary's School, Whitechapel, on the 1st inst.

The presentation of prizes to successful competitors of the 4th Tower Hamlets by Lady De Hoghton took place on Thursday week in St. Thomas's Hall, Hackney, in the presence of Colonel M'Murdo, who made a telling speech. Among the prizes were a handsome silver tankard and medal, presented by Colonel De La Rue, and gained by Corporal Hurst; two prizes, presented by Colonel Sir H. de Hoghton, won by Private Baines and Corporal Vaughan; a prize, presented by C. S. Butler, Esq., M.P., and gained by Colour-Sergeant Aylmer. There were upwards of fifty other prizes, consisting of watches, tankards, and tea services.

The prizes competed for during the present year by the members of the 37th Middlesex were distributed to the different winners on Saturday night, by Colonel M'Murdo, in the Music Hall, Store-street. Colonel M'Murdo, who was received with vehement cheering, said one of his duties in connection with volunteers was to give an account of the efficiency of corps, and he could say with sincerity that the 37th had maintained their character in that respect. The challenge gold badge and medal, open to first-class men only, which in 1863 was won by Private Marke, in 1862 by Colour-Sergeant Golding, in 1861 by Quartermaster-Sergeant Hoys, in 1860 by Sergeant Pearce, this year was awarded to Corporal Gould. The same gentleman received also the prize in the "gold-medal squad." The silver medal of the corps, open to second-class men," was awarded to Corporal Day.

The annual competition for the company prizes presented by the officers of the Irish volunteers in the metropolis was brought to a close on the 26th ult. Besides sums of money (in the aggregate £60), the prizes consisted of a number of valuable articles—gold and silver watches, silver cups. The following are the names in the first class of the winners of the respective silver medals awarded to the best shot in each company:—A Company, Private W. Walters; B Company, Private J. Donnelly; C Company, Ensign R. H. Chattock; F Company, Private F. G. Brown; H Company, Sergeant W. Crespin. The battalion gold medal was carried off by Lieutenant J. Godfrey. This regiment, which numbers about 700 effectives, is in a most flourishing condition, a state of affairs entirely owing to the attention of the gallant Colonel, the Marquis of Donegall, to its internal economy as well as military organisation.

The presentation of the prizes won in a recent competition amongst the 1st Surrey were distributed to the victors on Thursday week, in the handsome drill-shed of the corps, Hanover Park. Tables on the platform were laden with ornamental articles in gold and silver plate to the value of more than £400, the prizes to be presented to the successful competitors. The duty of presenting the prizes was undertaken by Lady Pollock, the wife of General Sir George Pollock, hon. Colonel of the corps. The first prize was the Pollock challenge cup, of the value of fifty guineas, given by General Pollock, and won by Private H. O. Botcler. The 1st Surrey challenge cup, value twenty-five guineas, the gift of Colonel Macdonald, was won by Private F. Wishart; the ladies' challenge cup, of the same value, by Sergeant Chisholme; Lieutenant Buckle's challenge cup, Private J. J. Curtis; Captain Wire's challenge claret-jug, Sergeant Chisholme; the Kennington (No. 2) company's challenge cup, of thirty guineas' value, Private J. T. Macrone; Lady Pollock's prize of five guineas, by Private J. H. Twentyman; Mrs. Macdonald's prize of ten guineas, by Sergeant E. E. Buckle; a silver cup of the value of twenty guineas, given by Mr. F. Doulton, M.P., by Private J. T. Macrone. Prizes were also given by Dr. Griffiths, Major Irvine, the officers of the Brixton company, Captain Phare, Captain Scrutton, Lieutenant Morrimore, Ensign Gooden, Quartermaster H. Weir, Sergeant Chisholme, Private Hewitt, Private Wishart, by the battalion, and by several of the companies. The winners not already mentioned are Private E. D. Brown, Private Wishart, Corporal Langton, Sergeant Buckle, Private G. Hodgkins, Private E. Bicknell, Private T. Wheeler, Corporal T. G. Mill, Privates John Tully, J. B. Smith, T. A. Moss, Hewett, and Corporal Nixon.

The volunteers of Dover, Folkestone, and Hythe were inspected at Folkestone, on the 14th ult., by Colonel Luard. Fault was found with the battalion drill, but the company drill was well done.

The silver challenge cups which have been presented severally to the 1st Oxfordshire (University) Rifle Corps and the Cambridge University Rifle Volunteers by the Prince of Wales were both competed for on Monday. At Oxford there were thirty candidates for the honour. The prize fell to Lance-Corporal Steele, of Exeter College. At Cambridge there were thirty entries, but preliminary shooting was gone through till the actual number was reduced to only six. The highest score was made by Private Dyer, of Emmanuel, to whom the cup was awarded.——The silver challenge cup presented to the 1st Oxfordshire by Lieutenant-Colonel Bowyer, which is constituted solely by members of the University, was contended for on Tuesday at the butts near Botley. Sergeant Doyle, Balliol College, carried off the prize.——The scratch-shooting of the third (Brasenose) company, Oxford University Rifles, took place on Monday week. Sergeant Alcock's squad were the winners; Corporal Blackburne's squad second.

The 2nd Lancashire (St. Helen's) Engineers were inspected on the 19th ult., by Colonel Broughton, R.E. Though a comparatively young corps, their movements called forth the praise of the inspecting officer, who, however, assured them that they had still a good deal to learn. St. Helen's possesses a battalion of riflemen as well as the engineer corps.——On Saturday a number of the members of the 56th (Salford) Lancashire, assembled on the range of the regiment at Clifton Moss to compete for the Fitzgerald challenge cup. The cup must be won two years before it becomes the property of the winner. Quartermaster Sergeant Jones won the cup.

The Isle of Man has this year established a rifle association, and the distribution of prizes won at its first meeting took place at Douglas on the 14th ult. The prizes were given away by the Lieutenant-Governor, who is a member of the Queen's (Westminster) Rifles. The first prize, the Isle of Man cup, the holder of which was also entitled to compete for the Prince of Wales's prize next year at Wimbledon, was won by Corporal Whiteside.

The volunteers in Victoria, Australia, have shown extraordinary zeal. Out of a total force of about 3000 men more than 2700 have gone through the regular course of class-firing.——The New South Wales Rifle Association, based upon the English National Rifle Association, held its fourth annual meeting at Sydney, in September. The meeting was not so well attended as on previous years; but it passed off with great spirit.

WILLS AND BEQUESTS.

The will of the Hon. Hannah Jane Cochrane, widow, of Sussex-square, was proved in the London Court under £35,000 personalty; the executers appointed being her sons Robert Alexander Cochrane and Basil Edwood Cochrane, Esqrs. The testatrix has bequeathed to her son Robert one whole share in the Hetton Colliery, Durham, and has divided one half-share into thirty parts between her sons Robert and Arthur and her daughter Mrs. Mowbray, making pecuniary bequests to her sons Basil and Archibald, and also to her daughter Caroline, to whom she has left her jewellery and personal ornaments; and to her son Robert the plate, pictures, &c., appointing him residuary legatee of both real and personal estate.

The will of Miss Maria Harman, of Calverley Lodge, Tunbridge Wells, was proved in the London Court by the executors, John Harman, Esq., her nephew; Charles Richard Harford, Esq., the elder, her cousin; and Charles Richard Harford, Esq., the younger, son of the preceding. To the two last named liberal legacies are bequeathed, and to her nephews, John and Edward (the sons of her brother, Edward Harman), she leaves the residue of her property. The personalty was sworn under £35,000. The will was made in 1849 and two codicils 1855-7. There are many legatees. To her brother, Henry Harman, an annuity of £300; and to her sister, Mrs. Bush, a legacy of £300; bequests to her sisters-in-law and to her nephews, nieces, cousins, and other relatives and acquaintance; and annuities and legacies to her servants. To her medical friend, Robert Duncan, M.D., £200. The following are the charitable bequests:—To the Societies for the Propagation of the Gospel and for the Promotion of Christian Knowledge, £100 each; the Tunbridge Wells Dispensary, Humane Society, and Shipwrecked Mariners', £50 each; the Maidstone Ophthalmic Hospital, Brompton Consumption Hospital, Eye Infirmary, and Blind Charity, 19 guineas each; and further directs that bread and other gifts shall be made to the poor of Tunbridge Wells, Eastbourne, Rotherfield, Crowborough, Brenchley, Pembury, and Capel-with-Tudely. Legacies not exceeding £100 to be paid free of duty.

The will of Joseph Underwood, Esq., of Hyde Park-gardens, and of Eastcheap, London, and Norwich, was proved under £200,000 personalty. The will bears date the 23rd of May last. The testator died the 26th of August following. The executors and trustees appointed are his relict; his son Frederick James Underwood, Esq.; and George Stockdale, Esq., of Hanover Villas, Notting-hill, and Throgmorton-street. To the latter he has left a legacy of £300. To his relict he leaves an immediate legacy of £5000, together with the furniture, plate, carriage, &c., and the residence, Hyde Park-gardens. He also bequeaths to her an equal share with his son Frederick in his business, carried on at Eastcheap and at Norwich, including the capital and stock-in-trade of a vinegar manufacturer and importer of foreign wines and spirits; and has appointed his said son residuary legatee of both real and personal estate. To his two daughters he leaves so much as will make their respective portions £35,000. There is a legacy of £1000 to his niece, Mary Emily Simson, of Cloona Castle, Mayo, Ireland, and £500 to each of her children. To two of his clerks, William Bailey and Frederick Clarke, each £500; to his housekeeper, £50; to two other servants, legacies of £100 and £200, and a few other legacies; to the Norfolk and Norwich Hospital and the Cumberland Infirmary, each £200.

The will of Henry Lewis Wickham, Esq., of Chesterfield-street, May Fair, was proved in the London Court by his relict, the sole executrix, to whom he has left his personal property for her own absolute use, which was sworn under £35,000, and has devised to his eldest son, William Wickham, Esq., his real estate absolutely.

The Rev. John Dight, of Folkestone, has bequeathed to the societies in London and Paris for the prevention of cruelty to animals £100 each, and a like legacy to the Devon and Exeter Hospital.

Mr. Eneas M. Giffard, British Vice-Consul at Chagres, has been appointed her Majesty's Consul at Vera Cruz.

CHESS.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

SOLUTIONS OF PROBLEM NO. 1083 by J. H. D., Linden, W. W., 1864, Civis, Trinculo, M. P., F. R. S., Quidnunc, Œdipus, S. M. E., Charley, B. A., Armandale, N. S. E., Felix, Box and Cox, Ermonville; T., Peckham; Vanbrugh, L. S. D., R. B., Sigma, C. B., D. Forbes, Von B., E. F. A. H. J., R. P., W. D., Omega, Try-again, Percy, Christopher, Mathematicus, Esmond, G. M D., E. Munro, Dryasdust, C. W. B., Iota, Subscriber, George H., Pip, Sam W., Old Hoss, Presle, R. N., Edmund, Manhattan, T. B., Langdon, H. E. B., Victoria, I. S. G., Agricola, M. D., Delta, Oliver; S. P. Q. B., of Bruges; D. C. L., E. G. E., Nimrod, are correct. All others are wrong.

A. F. B. H., Birmingham.—1. The problems, if they can be deciphered shall be examined. In future, we should advise you to describe the position of the men in writing rather than adopt such illegible diagrams. 2. The solutions asked for shall be given next week.

E. FALKBEER.—Your letter respecting the suppressed review has already, we find, appeared in the columns of a contemporary. Your object—publicity—having been attained, it is no longer necessary for us to print the letter. We are very glad to find that the article in question will be published elsewhere.

T. WORRALL, New York.—Our best thanks are due for your friendly attention in sending the games.

R. A. B.—You will see by the notice above to Mr. Falkbeer that we are cognisant of the circumstances connected with the "suppressed review."

I. H. GURNEY.—But how will you mate if Black play 1. *K to Q Kt 5th?*

ANXIOUS.—The question was answered in last week's Number. He is not obliged to give check, but may move the piece to another square.

S. P. G.—There is plenty of room for a good English chess periodical conducted by able and impartial English writers; but an English chess magazine edited by illiterate foreigners would never answer. The mere proposition is an insult to common-sense.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM NO. 1083.

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1. B to Q B 3rd	P to Q 4th	3. Kt to Q 3rd	K to Q 3rd
2. B to Q 4th	P takes B	4. R to K B 6th.	Mates.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM NO. 1084.

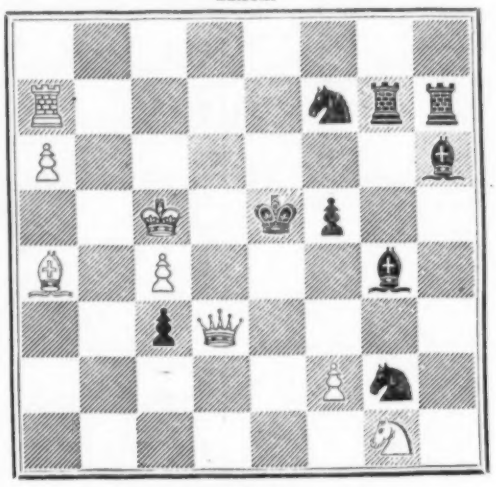
WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1. Kt from K sq to Q 3rd (ch)	B takes Kt or (a)	2. B to K 4th	Any move
		3. Mates accordingly.	

(a) 1. R takes Kt
2. B to K B 4th (ch) Any move.
3. Q mates.

PROBLEM No. 1085.

By I. LAW, M.D.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play, and mate in four moves.

MR. GLAISHER'S TWENTY-THIRD BALLOON ASCENT FOR SCIENTIFIC PURPOSES.

Mr. Glaisher sends to the papers the following account of his balloon ascent from Woolwich on the 1st inst.:—

The balloon left at 2.37 p.m., with a temperature of 48 deg., which remained unchanged till 600 ft. were passed; it then declined gradually to 31½ deg., at the height of 5200 ft. by 3.58; on falling to 4000 ft. the temperature increased to 33½ deg., and declined to 30 deg. at 5000 ft. by 3.26; on descending to 4200 ft. there was an increase of 2 deg., and a decline to 29 deg. at the height of 5400 ft. by 3.42, then a gradual increase to 41 deg. at 1400 ft.; then no change on descending through the next 600 ft., when the last observation was made at 4.23, and we were on the ground at 4.25, when it was too dark to read the instruments.

The temperature of the dew point, or that temperature at which the water in the air is deposited visibly upon substances, cooled down to that degree as the bright metallic cups of a hygrometer was 8 deg. below that of the air from the earth to the height of 1500 ft.; the air then became much more humid, and at 2100 ft. the difference between these two temperatures was 5 deg. only; on passing into a W.N.W. wind at 2300 ft., the difference between became 11 deg., and was nearly 20 deg. at the height of 5000 ft., when the air was very dry. On descending the two temperatures approached each other, and at 4000 ft. high were separated by 10 deg. only. On again ascending the difference increased to 23 deg., the temperature of the air being 32 deg., and that of the dew point, 9 deg., and it continued dry at high elevations. On descending below 3500 ft., at 3.53, the air again became humid, and continued so at all lower elevations, particularly between the heights of 800 ft. and 1200 ft., when the two temperatures were nearly alike, and the balloon was covered with water. Some strata of wet air were passed of no great thickness, without perceptible fog, depositing a good deal of moisture.

The reading of a delicate blackened bulb thermometer placed in the full rays of the sun, which read 56 deg. before leaving the earth, never read so much as 1 deg. higher than another delicate thermometer most carefully protected from the sun during the whole journey. The bulbs of these two thermometers were within two inches of each other.

No tinge of ozone was shown throughout the journey.

When at the height of 3000 ft. the concussion from proving guns at Woolwich affected the balloon, and caused every rope to vibrate perceptibly, and all the instruments to shake, and this took place each time a report was heard, even up to the height of 5000 ft. Once no less than three echoes were heard following the report, but usually one report alone was heard.

A very delicate magnet, lent to me by Captain Evans, R.N., F.R.S., which vibrates in a little more than two seconds on the earth, was observed on ten different occasions, and the time of vibration seemed to be lengthened, notwithstanding the lower temperature of the higher regions. Another magnet, less delicately mounted, and which I have frequently used, also occupied a somewhat higher time in vibrating.

For an altitude of 20 deg. all round there was mist, the remainder of the sky was for the most part clear. On examining the sun with a spectroscope on the earth the colours of the spectrum were moderately bright, the line B, at the red end, and G at the violet end, were the extreme limits, and there were not many besides the principal lines between; the wind was nearly west near the earth. On reaching 1100 ft. we entered a S.W. current, and thought we should cross the river Thames north of Erith; but on passing above 2000 ft. we entered a W.N.W. current, and passed, at 3, some little distance south of Erith. We were over Dartford at 3.16., and here we saw the smoke from Gravesend passing S.W. and S.S.W. till it reached 1000 ft., and then to turn back upon itself. At this time, at the height of 5000 ft., we were moving W.N.W., or towards Cobham Park. At 3.24. we were south of Greenhithe, and nearly over Darent Wood. On examining the country it had an appearance we had never seen before. At the height of a mile up to this time all hills have been dwarfed to level plains, and all valleys have been raised, so that the earth has appeared uniformly plain. On the contrary, now, every variation of surface, every hollow, every rise, were clearly shown; the course of the River Darent was traced for miles, with every elevation of land near it, but we could not see anything moving on the earth. The sun was shining, the sky was perfectly clear and of a deep blue. On examining the sun's spectrum here, it was indeed different from below—the colours were all far brighter, the lines extending from A at the red end to far beyond H at the violet end, which line was made up of fine lines. The spectrum was very fine. The sun was warm, but yet did not exercise any influence on the thermometer, upon the blackened bulb of which it shone brightly. At 3.46. there was a sudden chill to sense; the wind was still W.N.W. At 3.58, we heard a clock strike four. At 4 we were south of Gravesend, at 4.17 we crossed the Medway, then over Woldham, changed direction to nearly S.W. At 4.23, at my last observation, it was very difficult to read the instruments, and it was then no use to ascend higher or to remain longer from the earth. We were on the ground at 4.25 at Delce Farm, near Rochester.

Valuable lead-mines have been discovered in the mountains of the province of Munster (Prussia). The *Boersenhalle*, of Hamburg, says that the ore is so rich and so abundant that it would suffice for the supply of all Europe.

OBITUARY OF EMINENT PERSONS.

THE COUNTESS OF ABINGDON.

The Right Hon. Fredericia Augusta, Dowager Countess of Abingdon, who died at her town house, 64, Eccleston-square, on the 26th ult., was (by his wife, Charlotte, Countess of Antrim in her own right) the fourth daughter of Vice-Admiral Lord Mark Robert Kerr, and was granddaughter of William John, fifth Marquis of Lothian, and sister of Mark, present Earl of Antrim. Her Ladyship was born June 22, 1816, and was married, March 11, 1841 (she was his second wife), to Montagu, fifth Earl of Abingdon, who officiated as cupbearer at the coronation of George IV., and who died Oct. 16, 1854, having by her had no issue. Montagu, present Earl of Abingdon, is the Countess' stepson, and her eldest sister is the wife of her husband's brother, the Hon. and Rev. Frederic Bertie, M.A., Rector of Albury, Oxon. Lady Georgiana Anne Emily Bertie is the author of that graceful and interesting genealogical work "Five Generations of a Loyal House."

THE COUNTESS OF BECTIVE.

Amelia, Countess of Bective, who died on the 4th inst., at the family town house, 24, Grafton-street, Berkeley-square, from an illness of some months' duration, was the only daughter and heiress of Alderman William Thompson, an opulent citizen of London, and for many years M.P. for Westmorland. Her Ladyship was married, July 20, 1842, to Thomas, Earl of Bective, M.P. for Westmorland, eldest son of Sir Thomas Taylour, K.P., second and present Marquis of Headfort. By this union her Ladyship leaves (with five daughters) an only son, Thomas, Lord Kenlis, who was born Feb. 11, 1844, and who will inherit the bulk of the great wealth, landed and personal, of his maternal grandfather, Alderman Thompson.

THE HON. MRS. FITZROY.

The Hon. Hannah Mayer FitzRoy, who died on the 2nd inst., at her town house, 42, Upper Grosvenor-street, was the second daughter of the late Baron Nathan Meyer Rothschild, and was married, in 1839, to the late Right Hon. Henry FitzRoy, Under Secretary of State for the Home Department, the youngest son of George Ferdinand, second Lord Southampton, and brother of the third and present Lord. There were issue of the marriage only one son, who died in his father's lifetime, and one daughter, Caroline Blanche Elizabeth, who was married in the spring of this year to Sir Coutts Lindsay, Bart., of Balcarras, Fifeshire, and Grosvenor-square, London. The late Right Hon. Mr. FitzRoy was for many years member for Lewes, and, among many other charitable acts, his widow had only recently, in homage to his memory, completed, under the direction of Mr. George Gilbert Scott, the erection at Lewes of a public library and reading-room, at a cost of £5000.

MISS BYRNE, OF CABINTEELY.

This lady, Miss Georgiana Mary Byrne, was the youngest and last survivor of the three daughters and co-heirs of Robert Byrne, Esq., of Cabinteely, by his wife, Mary, daughter of Robert Devereux, Esq., of Carigmenan, in the county of Wexford. Miss Georgiana Byrne succeeded to the large and old estate of Cabinteely, on the demise, in 1850, of her second and then only surviving sister, Miss Clarinda Mary Byrne. She died, on the 29th ult., at her town house, 15, St. George's-place, Hyde Park-corner; and the estate and representation of the O'Byrnes of Cabinteely pass to her cousin and heir, William Richard O'Byrne, Esq., F.R.G.S., of Grove Lodge, Hayes, Middlesex, the author of "The Naval Biography" and other meritorious and popular works; who married, in 1851, Emily, eldest daughter of John Troughear Handy, Esq., of Malmesbury, Wilts, and has a family of daughters. This line of Byrne, or O'Byrne, was a branch of the old and once mighty sept of the O'Broins or O'Birnes. The family was cavalier, and, to the loss of lands, made powerful resistance in Ireland against Cromwell, and subsequently sustained there the cause of James II. From George Byrne, a son of the house, springs the present Lord De Tabley; and from another son, George's brother, John, a barrister of note and High Sheriff of the county of Wicklow in 1675, immediately descend the present Byrnes of Cabinteely, a beautifully-situated estate, near Kingstown, in the county of Dublin.

CHARLES MANNERS LUSHINGTON, ESQ.

Charles Manners Lushington, Esq., formerly M.P. for Canterbury, a scion of the highly-talented and respected family of Lushington, of note alike in law, arms, and politics, was the sixth son of the Right Hon. Stephen Rumbold Lushington, D.C.L., of Norton Court, Kent (successively M.P. for Rye and Canterbury, Governor of Madras, joint Secretary of the Treasury, and Chairman of Committees), by his first wife, Anne Eliza, eldest daughter of George, first Lord Harris, G.C.B., the victor of Seringapatam. He was born in 1819, and was educated at Eton, and at Oriel College, Oxford, where he graduated B.A. 1841, M.A. 1843, and was elected Fellow of All Souls'. Mr. Lushington was an earnest and active opponent some few years ago of the church-rate abolition bills. He was returned as a Conservative to Parliament for Canterbury in 1854, his successful colleague being the present Lord Athlumney. Mr. Lushington ceased to be M.P. for Canterbury in 1857, and has not since sat in Parliament. He married, May 5, 1846, Henrietta, elder sister of the present Sir Stafford Henry Northcote, Bart. His death has just occurred at Boulogne.

DR. ARCHER.

The Rev. Dr. Thomas Archer, who has long been known as one of the most eloquent of London preachers, belonged to the United Presbyterian Church of Scotland, which is a separate body from both the Established Church and the Free Church, but with scarcely appreciable differences in doctrine and discipline. Dr. Archer was, thirty-three years ago, elected minister of Oxendon-street Chapel, near the Haymarket, and during the whole of that long period he secured a congregation composed of some of the most opulent and the most intelligent of his fellow-countrymen residing in London and its neighbourhood. He was a man of large and liberal views, and his death, which occurred on the 30th ult., will be deeply deplored.

M. STRUVE.

Frederic Struve, a celebrated Russian astronomer, whose name is associated with all the great works of triangulation and geodesy carried out in Russia and Eastern Europe, died, on the 23rd ult., at St. Petersburg. He was born at Altona, in April, 1793; and studied philology, and afterwards astronomy, in the University of Dorpat, in the government of Livonia. In 1813, he was attached to the observatory of that town, becoming its director four years afterwards. In 1839, he removed to Pulkowa, and was appointed director of the magnificent observatory which the Russian Government had established there, and he retained that post till his death. M. Struve undertook and carried out various important works and scientific expeditions, accounts of which have much enriched scientific libraries. His son, M. Otho Struve, studied under his accomplished father, and obtained the post of second astronomer of the Pulkowa Observatory.

JULES GERARD.

The premature death of Jules Gérard, the famous lion-hunter, has been confirmed. The intrepid traveller was drowned while fording a river in Africa. Gérard was born of poor parents at Pignans, a town in the department of Var, in Provence, France, on June 14, 1817. He was fond of sport from his youth, and at sixteen carried a rifle. He was a volunteer for the Algerian campaign in 1841, and commenced a life of adventures which has created much public interest. He describes, in his well-known work "Le Tueur de Lions," published in 1857, how it came to pass that a poor dwarf of a creature like himself ventured to declare war against the giant of the woods—one against one—chance for chance—God alone being a witness of the fight. Not long after his arrival at Bona he heard of the terrible lion of the Archiona, which had committed unheard-of devastations among villagers and troops alike. Gérard slew the brute, and thus established at once his fame in Africa. Of the twenty-five principal lions which fell victims to Gérard's rifle appalling stories are told. His own book about them has been universally popular. The Duc d'Aumale gave him a brace of pistols on his return to France in 1847; and on that occasion the Duke of Orleans's youthful son, the Count de Paris, who handed Gérard the weapons, said to him—"These villain beasts will finish you one day. A good hunter must be a good soldier. You must be preserved to the army. Accept these pistols to so preserve you." In 1855, Gérard returned once more to France, with the rank of Sub-Lieutenant, and received the decoration of the Legion of Honour. He had within the last year or two left France on another expedition into Africa, and he has unfortunately perished in the course of it, by the sad accident recorded.

To the deep and general public regret, the Earl of Carlisle died on the 5th inst. at his seat, Castle Howard, Yorkshire. A memoir will be next week given of this gifted and excellent nobleman.

We have to record the death of Serjeant A. J. Stephen, who was for some years one of the commissioners in bankruptcy. The learned gentleman was well known for his "Commentaries," and other legal works. He was seventy-eight years of age.

ERRATA.—A correspondent of a contemporary journal, with regard to Mr. Munro, of Novar, of whom a notice was last week given, corrects an error as to that gentleman being confounded with a distinguished scholar of the same name, who is a Fellow and tutor of Trinity College, Cambridge, and who has recently given to the world a valuable addition and translation of "Lucretius." Mr. Munro, of Novar, completed his studies as a Fellow Commoner at Christ Church, Oxford, and was never a member of any college in Cambridge; and, although he was eminently distinguished by his highly-cultivated taste for the fine arts, and for his discerning appreciation of literary excellence, he had no claim to the classical celebrity of his namesake, who carried off the Craven scholarship at the sister University. Another correspondent will have it that Mr. Munro was seventy years of age when he died.

The Trappists have obtained a concession in the province of Mytho, in Cochin-China, where they are about to found a large agricultural establishment.

The first iron-plated vessel for the Brazilian navy was launched a few days back at the Seyne building-yard, near Toulon. She is a corvette, and named the Dom Pedro II.

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